

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

## **PRESENTATION - 1**

### Annual Recreation Trends

Staff will present a report highlighting nationwide recreation trends for 2005. This is the fourth annual report to the Board concerning recreation participation trends and stems from a strategy in the Leisure Opportunities issue area of the Fairfax County Park Authority Strategic Plan for 2002-2006. This strategy (Leisure Opportunities, 5.1) directed staff to “monitor and provide a clearinghouse of information ...from which the Park Authority Board can be informed of key trends annually.”

Since the current Park Authority strategic planning cycle is ending this will be the last trends presentation in this series. Experience during this report series has shown that significant shifts in national recreation patterns generally happen gradually, making annual reporting unnecessary. Unless otherwise directed, future updates will be presented on a bi-annual basis.

### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2005 Recreation Trend Report

### STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director

Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer

Charlie Bittenbring, Director, Park Services Division

Nick Duray, Manager, Marketing Research and Planning, Park Services Division

# 2005 Recreation Trend Report



4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on  
Nationwide Participation Trends  
in Sports, Recreation and Fitness Activities

Fairfax County Park Authority  
Park Services Division  
January 2006

# Contents

PURPOSE.....	3
ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT, DATA SOURCES .....	3
SPORTS AND RECREATION ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION TRENDS:	
FIELD & COURT TEAM SPORTS.....	4
RACQUET SPORTS.....	8
SKATING SPORTS.....	10
GOLF .....	13
OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES.....	15
FITNESS ACTIVITIES.....	21
SUMMARY – WERE AMERICANS MORE ACTIVE IN 2004 THAN IN 2001? .....	25

## **Purpose**

This report describes nationwide activity participation trends for more than 60 sports and recreation activities. It is the fourth annual report on activity trends to the Park Authority Board and is an outgrowth of an initiative appearing in the Park Authority's 2002-2006 Strategic Plan. One of the issue areas presented in the strategic plan identified the need to keep pace with important leisure trends as a necessary antecedent to ensuring that the Park Authority is providing the recreational opportunities desired by Fairfax residents. To keep pace with leisure trends it is necessary to first identify them and develop a common understanding of which trends are the most important. This report series has represented a step in that direction.

The initial report in this series, presented in 2002, provided not only a detailed review of the current trends in recreation participation, but also a comprehensive demographic profile of who participates in each of the activities included in the report. Demographic shifts in activity participation generally happen gradually over time, so subsequent reports have been shorter, focusing on important shifts in activity participation patterns. This year's report continues that approach.

Where available, data on national activity trends are presented for three time periods – the most recent two years (2003-2004), an intermediate time period (2001-2004) that roughly describes activity trends as they have occurred over the current strategic planning cycle and a long-term term view over the 10-year period from 1995-2004. While data is presented for these three perspectives, most of the observations in this year's report focus on describing the most relevant trends for the middle time period. Because the Park Authority's current strategic planning cycle is concluding this year, summarizing activity trends that have occurred over that time period serves as a useful bridge between the present plan and the development of a new one.

## **Organization of the Report, Data Sources**

Following the convention established in earlier editions, activity trends are presented in six categories – field and court team sports, racquet sports, skating sports, outdoor recreation, golf and fitness activities. Most of the data presented in the report comes from the annual survey of sports and recreation activity participation conducted by American Sports Data (ASD). The ASD survey monitors participation in more than 100 sports, recreation and fitness activities. Data are based on a representative nationwide sample that produces approximately 15,000 survey responses annually. Estimates of activity participation in the ASD survey are based on the portion of the U.S. population that is age 6 and older.

Reports from the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association International (SGMA) and the International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association (IHRSA) were also helpful in the development of the team sports and fitness sections of the report. Golf trends were based on an annual survey of golf participation sponsored by the National Golf Foundation (NGF).

Not all activities of potential interest to the Park Authority are included in this trend report. Activities were included based on available data.

**Table 1**  
**Field & Court Team Sports Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1995 to 2004**

	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	03-04	% Change: 01-04	95-04
Basketball	46,474	39,368	37,552	38,663	36,584	35,439	34,223	-3.4%	-11.5%	-26.4%
Soccer	16,785	17,582	17,734	19,042	17,641	17,679	15,900	-10.1%	-16.5%	-5.3%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	24,512	17,926	17,585	17,679	14,372	14,410	14,267	-1.0%	-19.3%	-41.8%
Football (Touch)	19,950	16,729	15,456	16,675	14,903	14,119	12,993	-8.0%	-22.1%	-34.9%
Volleyball (Court)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	12,802	11,748	11,008	11,762	6.8%	-8.1%	#N/A
Baseball	16,183	12,069	10,881	11,405	10,402	10,885	9,694	-10.9%	-15.0%	-40.1%
Football (Tackle)	#N/A	4,932	5,673	5,400	5,783	5,751	5,440	-5.4%	0.7%	10.3% *
Softball (Fast Pitch)	3,488	3,214	3,795	4,117	3,658	3,487	4,042	15.9%	-1.8%	15.9%
Lacrosse	#N/A	822	751	1,099	921	1,132	914	-19.3%	-16.8%	11.2% *

Shows number of Americans (in thousands) age 6+ who participated in each activity at least once annually.

#N/A indicates years for which data was not available.

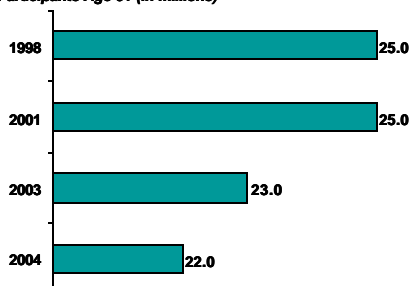
\*Column labeled "% change: 95-04" represents % change in participation since 1999 rather than 1995 for these activities.

## Key Trends – Field and Court Team Sports Participation

- Most of the nine activities tracked in the field and court team sport category experienced declining participant bases in both the short-term (2003-04) and medium-term (2001-04) trend periods. Over the short term, seven of the nine team sports activities lost significant numbers of participants as shown in table 1 on the previous page. Fast pitch softball and volleyball were the only two activities in this category to experience growth in participant numbers from 2003 to 2004. The four-year trend shows a similar pattern. During this time frame, participant numbers shrank in all of the team sports activities analyzed except tackle football where the size of the participant base remained essentially stable.
- Declining participation in team sports activities is now resulting from both casual and frequent participants. Declines in team sports participation have been documented throughout this series of reports, although the source of decline has shifted over time. In the initial report, issued in 2002, much of the decline in participation across team sports was attributed to fringe participants – those that played only occasionally and who, as a result, hadn't developed an affinity for team sports activities. Subsequent reports documented that continued erosion of team sports participant bases had begun to reach frequent participants as well, although the bulk of the decline was concentrated among occasional players.

This year's analysis indicates that significant loss of participants in team sports is now resulting from both occasional and frequent participants of these activities. An SGMA analysis of the frequent participants of all nine team sports combined showed that the collective number of individuals who were frequent team sports participants began to erode in 2003 and has declined 12% from 2001 - 2004 (see figure 1). Activity-by-activity analysis of team sports activities in decline since 2001 confirms that both occasional and frequent players have contributed to the drop in numbers (see table 2). The relative significance of these two groups in the erosion of the participant base varies by activity, however. In general, a declining trend is more established for those activities in which the rate of decline in the core participant base (i.e., frequent players) is equal to or greater than that of fringe users (i.e., occasional players).

**Figure 1**  
**Frequent Sports Participation – All Activities Combined**  
Participants Age 6+ (in millions)



**Table 2**  
**% Decline in Numbers of Occasional and Frequent Team Sports Participants - 2001 to 2004**

	Overall	Frequent Players	Occasional Players
Baseball	-15%	-12%	-16%
Basketball	-12%	-22%	-9%
Touch Football	-22%	-24%	-21%
Soccer	-17%	-20%	-16%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	-2%	15%	-10%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	-19%	-31%	-13%
Volleyball (Court)	-8%	-16%	-4%

Frequent participants for these activities include those who participated 52 or more times annually. Occasional participants played less frequently.

Data not available for lacrosse.

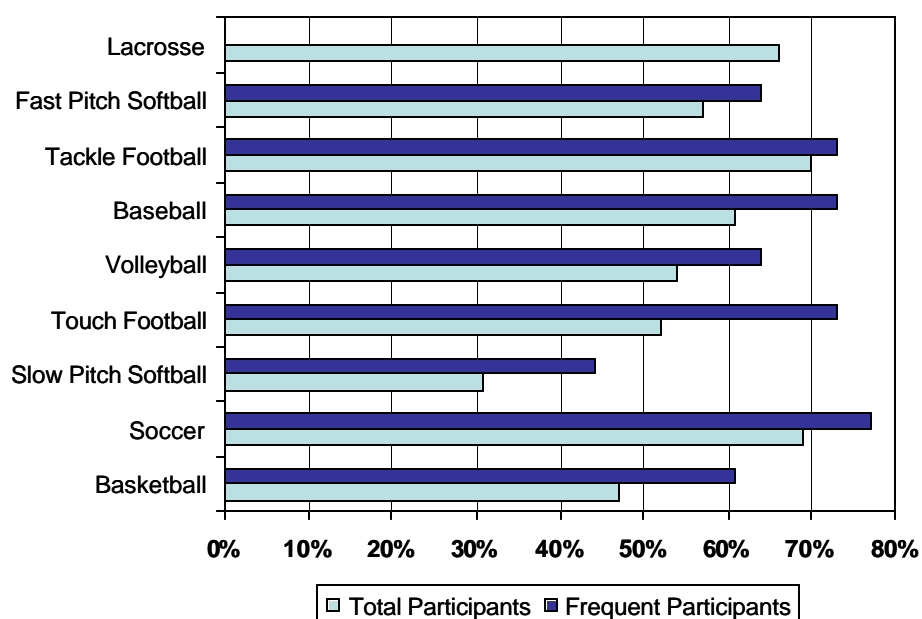
- Despite declines in the number of frequent sports participants, indications are that organized team sports play is generally still growing, though there are some indications of a slow-down in some sports, namely soccer and baseball. Table 3 shows participant data from some of the larger national youth sports programs as reported by SGMA.

**Table 3 - Trends in Organized Team Sports Play (in millions)**

Participation in AAU Youth Basketball	<u>2000</u> 0.21	<u>2004</u> 0.26	<u>% Growth</u> 24%
USA Volleyball Participation	<u>2000</u> 0.14	<u>2004</u> 0.18	<u>% Growth</u> 29%
Youth Softball Participation	<u>2001</u> 0.58	<u>2004</u> 0.65	<u>% Growth</u> 12%
Includes Little League, Dixie, PONY and Babe Ruth Softball.			
U.S. Youth Soccer Assn. Participation	<u>2000</u> 3.1	<u>2004</u> 3.08	<u>% Growth</u> -1%
High School Varsity Soccer	2000-01 0.63	2004-05 0.67	% Growth 6%
Pop Warner Football Participation	<u>2001</u> 0.19	<u>2004</u> 0.21	<u>% Growth</u> 11%
Community Youth Baseball	2000 4.4	2004 4.2	% Growth -5%
Includes Little League, Babe Ruth, PONY, Dixie, American Legion and American Amateur Baseball Congress			

- Anticipated youth population trends make the outlook for future growth in team sports participation at the national level look limited. Children make-up the majority of participants in all of the activities of the team sports category except slow pitch softball (see figure 2). That means team sports activity participant patterns are inextricably linked to youth population trends.

**Figure 2. % of Team Sports Participants Age 6-17**



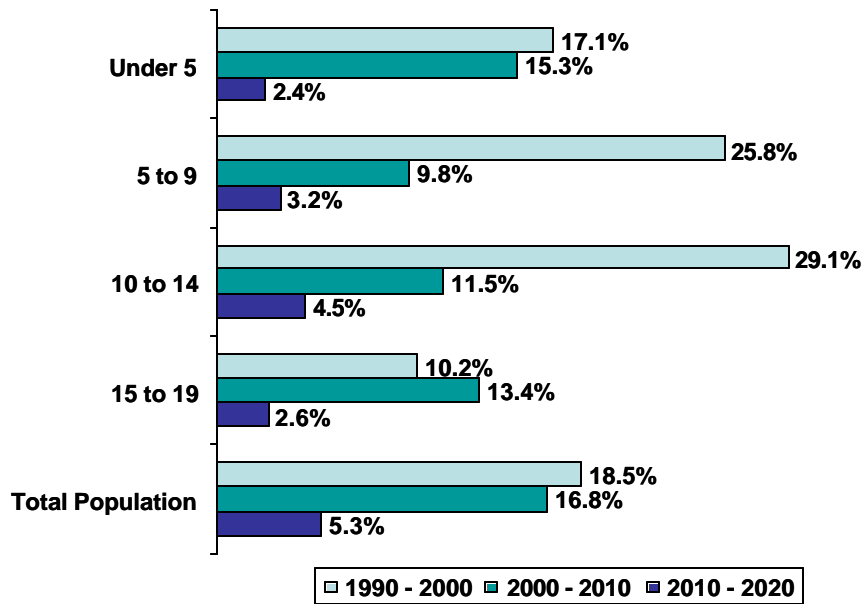
A recent report by the SGMA observes the following at the national level:

“For more than a decade, there has been strong growth in the number of children in the key team sports-playing age groups... Despite this expansion, the number of team sports participants has shrunk. Over the next decade, the 5 to 19 age group will grow only slightly, suggesting that team sports participation rates will continue to decline.”

Fairfax County demographic projections show a similar, though perhaps not quite as bleak, a picture for youth population growth at the local level (see Figure 3). Elementary and middle school age groups are still expected to grow some in the last half of this decade and into the next, but at dramatically slower rates than were experienced in the 1990s.



**Figure 3. Fairfax County Historic and Projected Population Growth Rates for Children Compared with the Total Population**



**Table 4  
Racquet Sports Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1993 to 2003**

	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% Change:		
								03-04	01-04	95-04
Tennis	18,479	16,817	16,598	15,098	16,353	17,325	18,346	5.9%	21.5%	-0.7%
Badminton	11,687	8,884	8,490	7,684	6,765	5,937	6,432	8.3%	-16.3%	-45.0%
Racquetball	6,297	5,633	5,155	5,296	4,840	4,875	5,533	13.5%	4.5%	-12.1%

Shows number of Americans (in thousands) age 6+ who participated at least once annually.

## Key Trends – Racquet Sports Participation

- All three racquet sports activities tracked in this report have enjoyed a recent resurgence in popularity. Tennis is now in the midst of a multi-year recovery in popularity, and from 2003-2004 both racquetball and badminton saw significant increases in participation for the first time in a decade or more (see table 4).
- Although badminton participation is down 16% overall since 2001, and the activity has lost nearly half of its participant base since 1995, participation did grow nearly 5% over the most recent two years. This represents the activity's first participant growth since the American Sports Data tracking study began in 1987. Growth came chiefly from occasional recreational players – primarily females and teens (see table 4).
- Racquetball's long-term slide in participation finally leveled-off during the current strategic planning period. After years of continual decline, participant numbers stabilized in the last

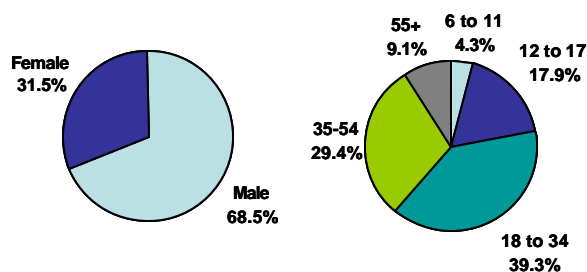
few years and then increased 13.5% from 2003 to 2004. To provide some perspective on the latest up tick in racquetball popularity, note that participant growth in this activity only occurred in one other year since the American Sports Data tracking studying began in 1987. That year was 2001 when the number of participants increased 2.7%. Current year growth (2003-04) was five times what occurred in 2001 (see table 4).

- Recent racquetball growth resulted primarily from two sources – youth discovering the sport for the first time and seniors who may be rediscovering it (see figure 4). Nearly half a million additional teens tried the sport in 2004 for a one year growth rate of 83%. The rate of growth was comparable among those ages 55 and older and was even higher among 6-11 year olds. A nearly 9% rate of growth among 18-34 year olds was also encouraging, since young adults represent the largest segment of users and participation in this age group had been in free fall for years. Young adults (18-34 year olds) currently represent 39% of all racquetball players compared to nearly 6 of every 10 participants in 1990.
- Nearly all of the 03-04 new racquetball participants were trial users, that is, they played racquetball a limited number of times during the year. Average frequency of play among racquetball players continued to decline, and nearly all appreciable growth was attributable to occasional, rather than frequent, participants (see figure 4).

*Figure 4*

Racquetball Participation, 2004

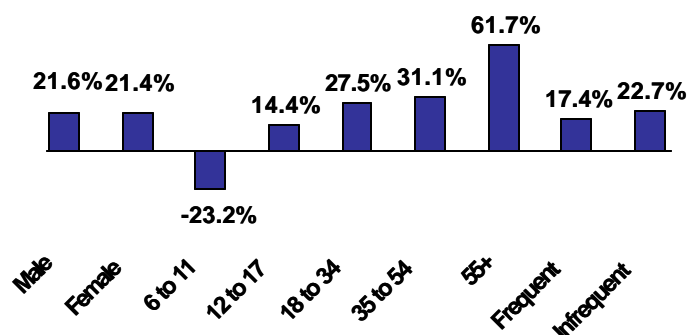
% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2003-2004



Male	23%
Female	-3%
6-11	188%
12-17	83%
18-34	9%
35-54	-17%
55+	80%
Frequent	1%
Infrequent	18%

- After years of decline, the number of tennis players climbed for the third consecutive year in 2004. Since 2001, the number of tennis players nationwide has increased 21.5% and is largely attributable to aggressive player development efforts initiated at about the same time by the United States Tennis Association.
- Tennis participant growth was broadly distributed demographically. Both sexes and all age groups except elementary school-aged children contributed significantly to participant growth in the 2001-2004 time period (see figure 5). And growth not only resulted from more occasional players trying the sport, but also resulted from the influx of additional committed, frequent participants as well.

**Figure 5**  
**Tennis - % Growth/Loss in**  
**Participants 2001-2004**



**Table 5**  
**Skating Sports Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1993 to 2003**

	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% Change:		
								03-04	01-04	95-04
In Line Skating	22,508	27,865	29,024	26,022	21,572	19,233	17,348	-9.8%	-33.3%	-22.9%
Ice Skating	#N/A	17,499	17,496	16,753	14,530	17,049	14,692	-13.8%	-12.3%	-16.0% *
Skateboarding	6,172	7,807	11,649	12,459	12,997	11,090	10,592	-4.5%	-15.0%	71.6%
Ice Hockey	2,622	2,385	2,761	2,344	2,612	2,789	1,998	-28.4%	-14.8%	-23.8%
In Line Hockey	4,232	2,853	3,287	2,733	2,875	2,718	1,788	-34.2%	-34.6%	-57.8%

Shows number of Americans (in thousands) age 6+ who participated at least once annually.

\*Column labeled "% change: 95-04" indicates % change in participation since 1999 rather than 1995 for this activity.

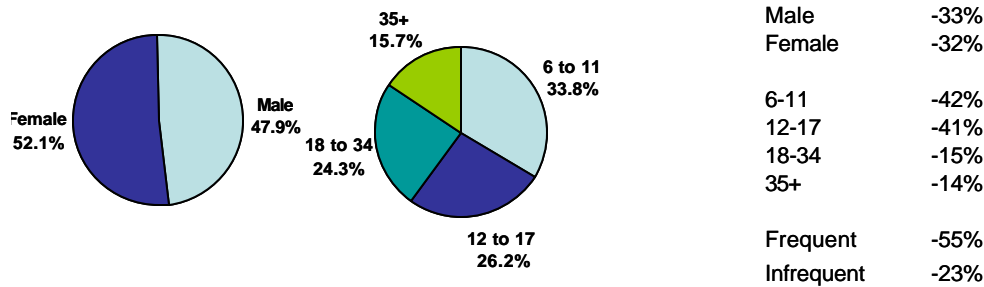
## Key Trends – Skating Sports Participation

- The most popular of the skating sports reviewed in this report – in line skating – experienced its fourth consecutive year of participant decline in 2004. There are now nearly 12 million less in line skaters than at the height of the sports' popularity in 2000. In just the last year, the number of participants dropped nearly 10% (see table 5). Loss of interest in this activity has occurred across-the-board – in all demographic groups and among both frequent and infrequent activity participants. In addition, those that remain are participating less frequently than in the past. The average in-liner participated in the activity about 20 days annually in 2004, down from an average of 33 days per year in 2001 (see figure 6).

Figure 6

In Line Skating Participation, 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004

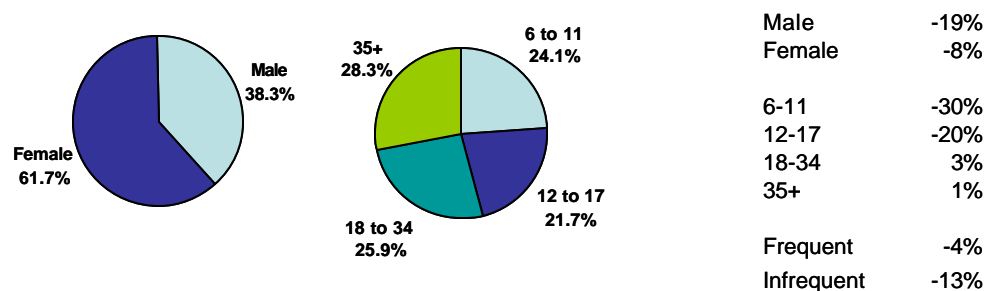


- Ice skating participation fluctuated up and down over the course of the strategic plan cycle. Since 2001, the number of participants in this sport decreased by slightly more than 12% (see table 5). Attrition was greatest in the youth age groups; elementary school aged skaters were particularly affected. And participant erosion was much more severe among occasional participants than it was among the most frequent participants in the activity (see figure 7).

Figure 7

Ice Skating Participation, 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004

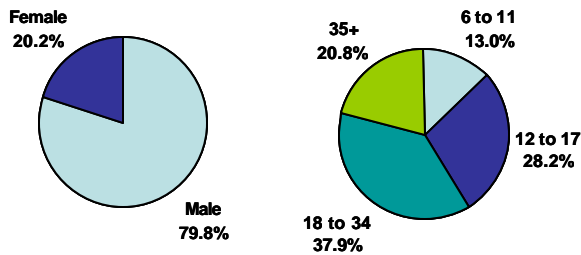


- In line and ice hockey have also exhibited fluctuating participation patterns over the last several years. Both activities have lost considerable numbers of adherents since 2001, however (see table 5). The drop in participant numbers was most severe for in line hockey, which lost a little more than one-third of its participant base. Numbers of ice hockey players dropped about 15%. A decrease in youth participation was a key factor in the declining numbers associated with both activities. Despite overall declining numbers of players, ice hockey was able to grow the core of its participant base – frequent players – while in line experienced significant declines in both frequent and infrequent participants (see figures 8 and 9).

Figure 8

Ice Hockey Participation, 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004

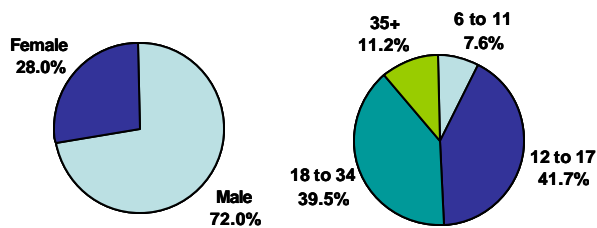


Male	-13%
Female	-21%
6-11	-48%
12-17	-11%
18-34	-20%
35+	-6%
Frequent	25%
Infrequent	-35%

Figure 9

In Line Hockey Participation, 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004



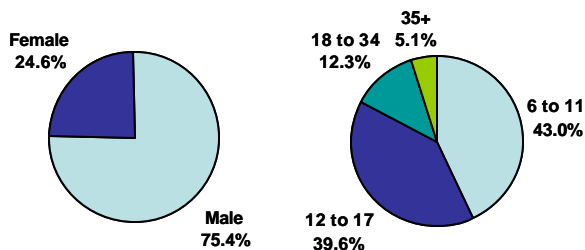
Male	-40%
Female	-14%
6-11	-84%
12-17	-39%
18-34	37%
35+	14%
Frequent	-30%
Infrequent	-37%

- After a number of years of spectacular growth, skateboarding participant numbers declined in 2004 for the second year in a row. As the current strategic planning cycle began, skateboarding was enjoying spectacular growth in participation. Numbers of skateboarders roughly doubled between 1995 and 2001. Participant growth then moderated and peaked in 2002 before declining over the past two years. Currently, overall numbers of skateboarding participants are still high compared to many other activities, but are the lowest they have been this decade. During the course of the strategic planning period, the number of skateboarders declined by 15% (see table 5).
- The two-year drop in skateboarding participation has come directly from the activity's core participant base. Youth in the 6-11 and 12-17 age groups together account for more than eight of every 10 skateboarders. Declining numbers in these two core audience segments were largely responsible for most of the drop in skateboarding participant numbers in 2003 and 2004. The typical skater is also beginning to participate less – an average of 48 days per year in 2004 compared to 58 days annually in 2001 (see figure 10).

Figure 10

Skateboarding Participation, 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004



Male	-13%
Female	-20%
6-11	-20%
12-17	-16%
18-34	-16%
35+	102%
Frequent	-22%
Infrequent	-12%

**Table 6**  
**Golf Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1994 to 2004**

	1994	1997	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% Change:		
								94-04	01-04	03-04
Golfers (18+):	22,634	24,118	25,400	25,800	26,200	27,400	27,302	20.6%	5.8%	-0.4%
Occasional (1-7 rounds/year)	11,463	10,619	11,684	14,190	13,624	14,248	14,552	26.9%	2.6%	2.1%
Core (8+ rounds/year)	11,171	13,499	13,716	11,610	12,576	13,152	12,750	14.1%	9.8%	-3.1%
Juniors (12-17)	1,750	2,350	2,103	2,450	2,750	2,550	2,912	66.4%	18.9%	14.2%

Source: National Golf Foundation. Estimates show number of golfers in thousands.

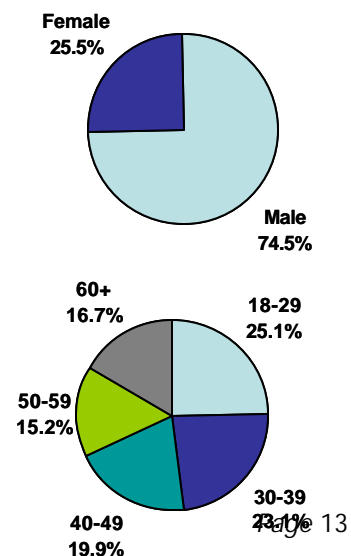
## Key Trends – Golf Participation

- Over the course of the strategic plan cycle, the total number of adult golfers nationwide grew nearly 6%. Core golfers, those totaling eight or more rounds of play per year, accounted for the bulk of that growth. As table 6 shows, their numbers grew at a rate more than three times that of occasional players (9.8% vs. 2.6%) from 2001-2004.
- The number of junior golfers (age 12-17) fluctuated over the same time period but, overall, their numbers grew about 19%. A third of junior golfers played enough rounds in 2004 to classify them as core golfers compared to 47% of adults.
- Demographic segments driving most of golf's growth over that last four years included older golfers (50+), young adults (18-34) and women. These segments of the golf market experienced four-year growth rates that were roughly two to four times the average growth rate of 5.8% (see table 7).
- The rate of growth in what were traditionally golf's primary demographic segments was slower than average or actually declined between 2001 and 2004. The growth rate among male golfers was substantially lower than that of females. Women now represent 25% of adult golfers compared to 20% in 2001. Golfers in their 30's and 40's declined significantly in number. In 2001, 30-49 year old golfers represented more than half of the participant base (52%). Due to attrition and growth in other segments, they now account for only 43% of all golfers (see figure 11).

Table 7 Rate of Growth/Loss in Golf Participants, 2001 - 2004		
	04-01	04-03
Total	5.8%	-0.4%
Male	3.5%	-2.0%
Female	13.2%	4.8%
18-29	18.4%	32.1%
30-39	-5.6%	-7.9%
40-49	-9.1%	-21.8%
50-59	14.7%	3.5%
60+	22.1%	3.5%

Source: National Golf Foundation

**Figure 11**  
**Golf Demographic Profile, 2004**



- During the strategic planning cycle, all of the growth in the adult golf participant base occurred from 2001 - 2003. The total number of golfers then remained essentially steady between 2003 and 2004. While virtually no growth occurred from 2003-2004, there were fluctuations within specific groups that comprise the golf market (see table 7). Occasional players actually increased in number, but the number of core golfers declined. As of now, the decline in core golfers represents only a one-year phenomenon. However, its impact is still significant, at least in the short term, since core players reportedly account for 91% of rounds played and 87% of golf spending according to National Golf Foundation estimates.
- Golfers continue to play less frequently than was true in the late 1990s and through 2000. Today more than half of all golfers play only seven rounds a year or less. This pattern, first evident in 2001, has stayed relatively consistent since then. Some comfort taken be taken in the fact that the pattern is not worsening (i.e., the proportion of infrequent golfers is not increasing), but it is not improving appreciably either. A majority of golfers have not been classified as core players (eight rounds a year or more) since 2000 (see table 8).

<b>Table 8. Frequency of Play Trends Among Adult Golfers</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
% Occasional (1-7 rounds/year)	51%	44%	46%	55%	52%	52%	53%
% Core (8+ rounds/year)	49%	56%	54%	45%	48%	48%	47%

Source: National Golf Foundation

**Table 9**  
**Outdoor Recreation Activity Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1995 to 2004**

	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	03-04	% Change: 01-04	95-04	
Recreational Swimming	#N/A	95,094	93,976	93,571	92,667	96,429	95,268	-1.2%	1.8%	0.2%	*
Recreational Bicycling	#N/A	56,227	53,006	52,948	53,524	53,710	52,021	-3.1%	-1.8%	-7.5%	*
Tent Camping	38,585	40,803	42,241	43,472	40,316	41,891	41,561	-0.8%	-4.4%	7.7%	
Freshwater Fishing	48,747	44,452	44,050	43,547	42,605	43,819	39,433	-10.0%	-9.4%	-19.1%	
Day Hiking	#N/A	39,235	39,015	36,915	36,778	39,096	39,334	0.6%	6.6%	0.3%	*
RV Camping	19,425	17,577	19,035	19,117	18,747	19,022	17,424	-8.4%	-8.9%	-10.3%	
Horseback Riding	#N/A	16,906	16,988	16,648	14,641	16,009	14,695	-8.2%	-11.7%	-13.1%	*
Canoeing	#N/A	12,785	13,134	12,044	10,933	11,632	11,449	-1.6%	-4.9%	-10.4%	*
Artificial Wall Climbing	#N/A	4,817	6,117	7,377	7,185	8,634	7,659	-11.3%	3.8%	59.0%	*
Kayaking	#N/A	4,012	4,137	4,727	5,562	6,324	6,147	-2.8%	30.0%	53.2%	*
Mountain Biking	8,654	7,849	7,854	6,189	6,719	6,940	5,334	-23.1%	-13.8%	-38.4%	
BMX Bicycling	#N/A	3,730	3,977	3,668	3,885	3,365	2,642	-21.5%	-28.0%	-29.2%	*

Shows number of Americans (in thousands) age 6+ who participated at least once annually.

\*Column labeled "% change: 95-03" indicates % change in participation since 1999 rather than 1995 for this activity.

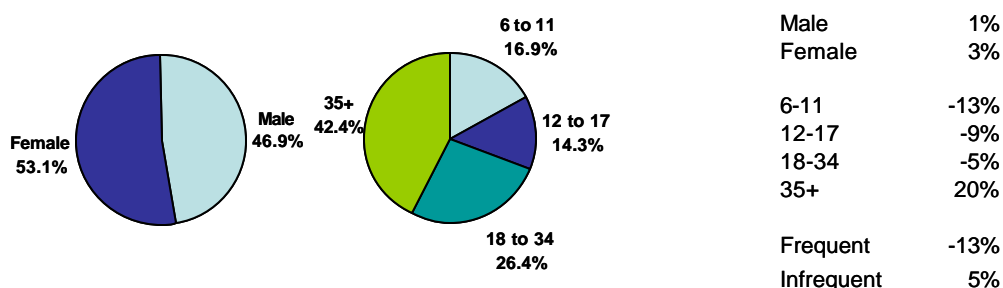


## Key Trends – Outdoor Recreation Activity Participation

- The majority outdoor recreation activities tracked in this section of the report experienced participant declines in both the most recent trend period (2003-04) and over the four-year period since 2001. Viewed collectively, less Americans were participating in these activities in 2004 than the previous year. Numbers of participants decreased in 10 of 12 outdoor recreation activities tracked, and they were static in the remaining two activities. Tent camping and day hiking were the only activities that did not experience a loss in participants from 2003-2004. The outlook was only slightly positive across the four-year period from 2001-2004. Over that time, the number of participants increased in four of the 12 activities (recreational swimming, day hiking, artificial wall climbing and kayaking), but fell in the other eight (see table 9).
- Those who are participated in these outdoor recreation activities in 2004 were generally doing so less frequently than in 2001. Average frequency of participation was lower in 2004 than in 2001 for all activities except BMX bicycling (+4%) and tent camping (unchanged). And it increased for only two activities between 2003 and 2004 – recreational bicycling (+3%) and BMX bicycling (+2%). Note that activities in this category are typically done in special settings (vacations, weekend outings and the like) and, therefore, participation frequencies are generally lower than those in other activity categories like fitness or team sports. Only three of the outdoor activities – BMX and recreational bicycling and recreational swimming – are engaged in an average of twice per month or more.
- Recreational swimming. Approximately 95.2 million Americans reported participating in entertainment-oriented swimming in 2004, making this the most popular activity by far of the 100+ recreation, fitness and sports activities included in the annual American Sports Data survey. While the number of activity participants in 2004 dropped by more than one million from the previous year, there were still 1.6 million more recreational swimmers in '04 than there were in 2001 (see table 9). The four-year growth in recreational swimming was not distributed evenly across the participant base, however. Youth and young adult participation declined, while participation among middle-aged and older adults was on the upswing. And keeping consistent with the general participation pattern of activities in this category, all of the growth in recreational swimming was found among occasional rather than frequent participants (see figure 11).

**Figure 11**

**Recreational Swimming Participation, 2004 % Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**

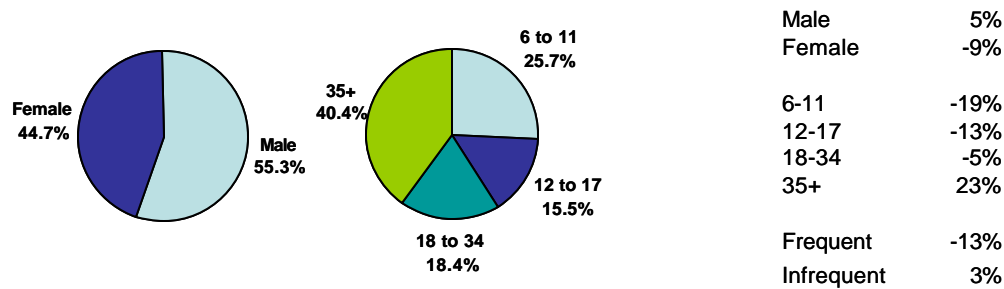


- Recreational bicycling, had approximately 52 million participants nationwide in 2004 – about 900,000 less than in 2001 (see table 9). Like recreational swimming, youth and young adult

participation in this activity waned while numbers of middle-aged and older bikers increased. Similarly, the number of Americans who did this activity frequently dropped precipitously (see figure 12).

*Figure 12*

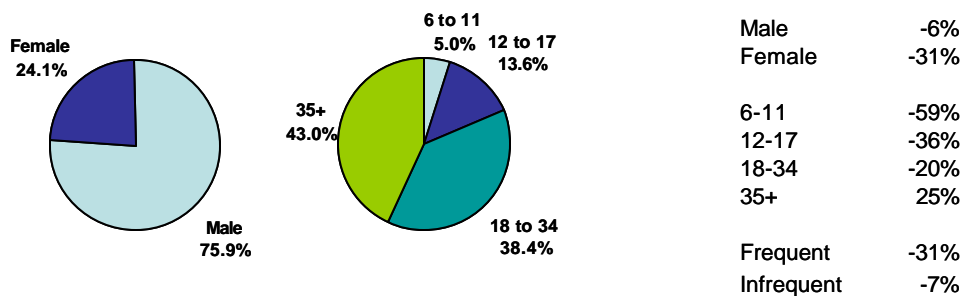
**Recreational Bicycling Participation, 2004      % Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



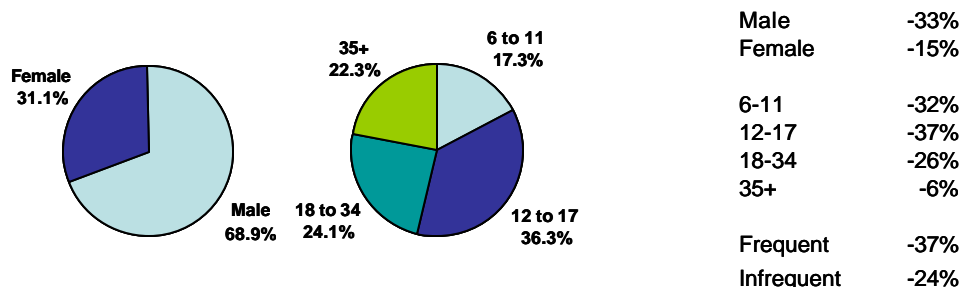
- Two biking activities – mountain biking and BMX – also experienced declining numbers in both the most recent two-year period and the four-year period beginning 2001 (see table 9). A drop-off in youth and young adult participation was again the primary factor contributing to the decline in both activities (see figure 13).

*Figure 13*

**Mt. Biking Participation, 2004      % Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



**BMX Bicycling Participation, 2004      % Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



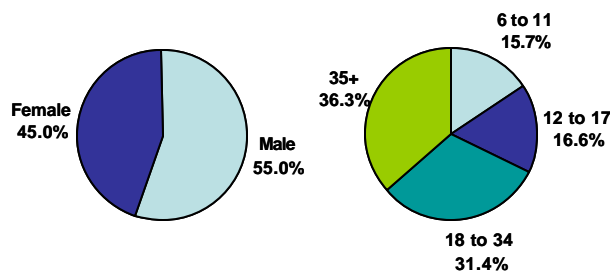
- Camping activities. Both tent and RV campers declined in number from 2001 - 2004 (see table 9). Tent camping losses stemmed from the familiar pattern of declining participation among youth and young adults. In contrast, all age groups contributed to the drop in the number of RV campers. Most discouraging was the decline in the number of senior-aged

RV campers. Entrance of the Baby Boom generation into the senior age ranks has often been cited as a potential boon to the RV industry. Between 2001 and 2003 this potential was well on the way to being fulfilled as the number of 55+ RV campers grew by 20%. About 660,000 new senior RV campers were added to the participant base over that period. Those gains were at least temporarily erased in 2004, however, when more than one million less seniors participated in RV camping than in 2003. As a result, there were 12% fewer senior-aged RV campers in 2004 as there were in 2001 (see figure 14).

**Figure 14**

**Tent Camping Participation, 2004**

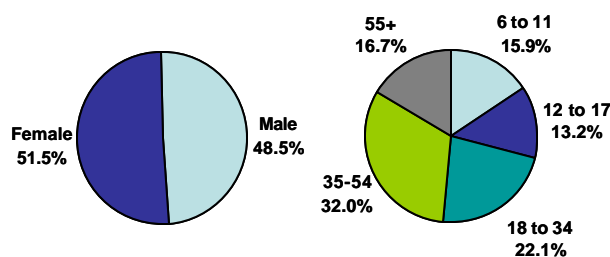
**% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



Male	-3%
Female	-6%
6-11	-19%
12-17	-6%
18-34	-11%
35+	11%
Frequent	-5%
Infrequent	-4%

**RV Camping Participation, 2004**

**% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



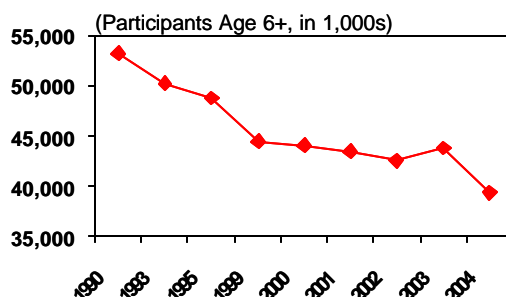
Male	-4%
Female	-13%
6-11	-17%
12-17	-4%
18-34	-10%
35-54	-3%
55+	-12%
Frequent	-9%
Infrequent	-9%

- Freshwater fishing. While this activity still enjoys widespread popularity, having more than 39 million participants nationwide in 2004, its decline as an American recreational activity continues. In 1990, more than 53 million Americans or 24% of the population age 6 and older engaged in freshwater fishing annually. By 2001, only 17.3% of Americans were freshwater fishing and as of 2004 the rate of participation had dropped to 15%. The drop in the popularity of fishing has affected every age group except seniors. The number of 55+ freshwater fisherman actually increased 9% between 2001 and 2004 (see figure 15).

**Figure 15**

**Freshwater Fishing Participation**

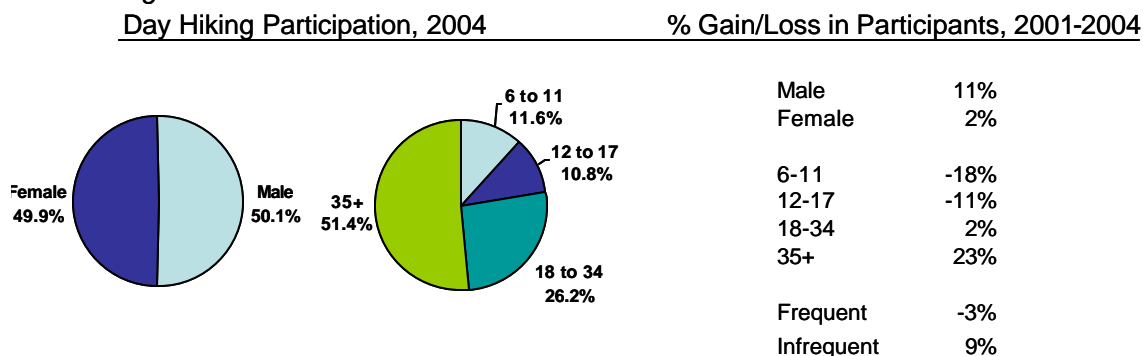
**% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004**



Male	-12%
Female	-7%
6-11	-15%
12-17	-18%
18-34	-15%
35-54	-3%
55+	9%
Frequent	-12%
Infrequent	-8%

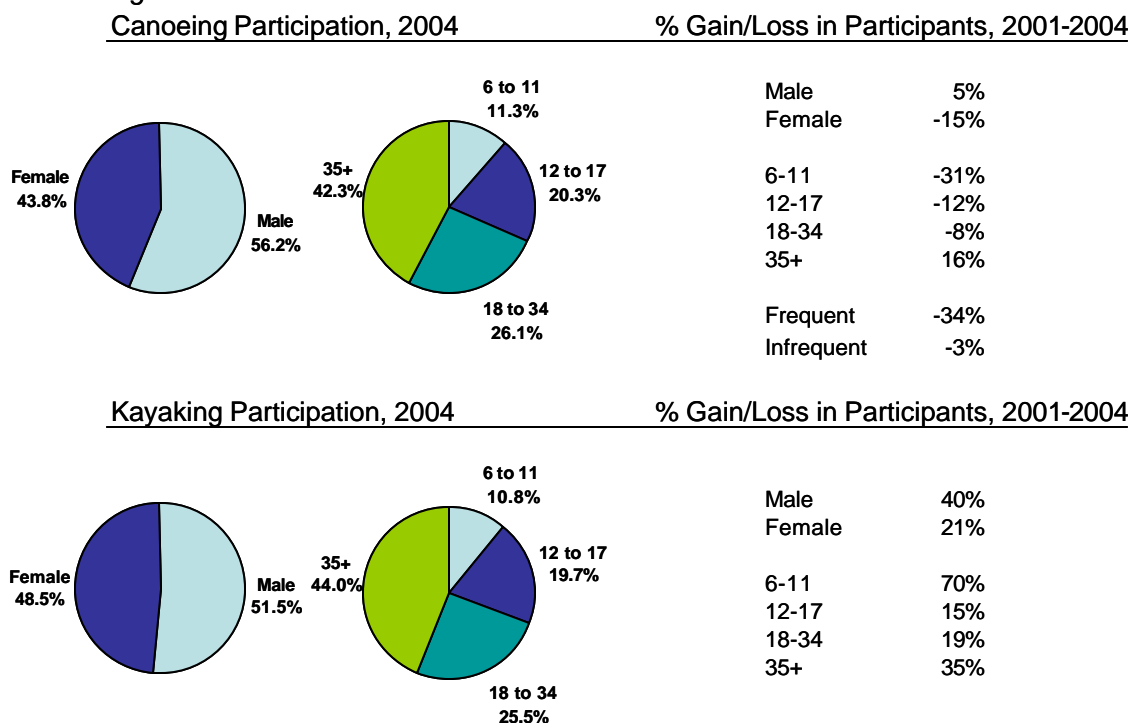
- Day hiking. This activity, roughly comparable to walking trails, is the fifth largest of the activities tracked in the outdoor recreation category. With 39.3 million participants in 2004, day hiking boasts a nationwide participant base comparable in size to freshwater fishing (see table 9). The number of participants has increased by about 2.4 million or 6.6% since 2001. If examined by age group, growth since 2001 has resulted from increased numbers of adults – particularly middle-aged and older. Youth participation in this activity declined over the same time period (see figure 16).

**Figure 16**

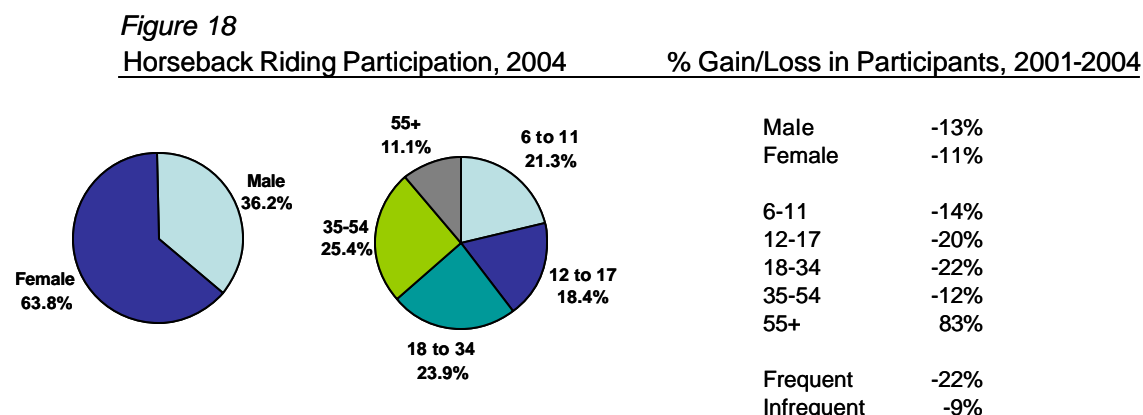


- Canoeing and kayaking. Canoeing sports nearly double the number of participants of kayaking nationwide (11.6 million in 2004 vs. 6.3 million), however, its numbers have decreased by about 5% since 2001 (see table 9). Despite a leveling off of participant numbers in 2004, kayaking participation increased 30% between 2001 and 2004 – from 4.7 to 6.1 million. The chief source of the decline in canoeing – weakening interest in the youth demographic. Kayaking, in comparison, enjoyed surging popularity across all age groups (see figure 17).

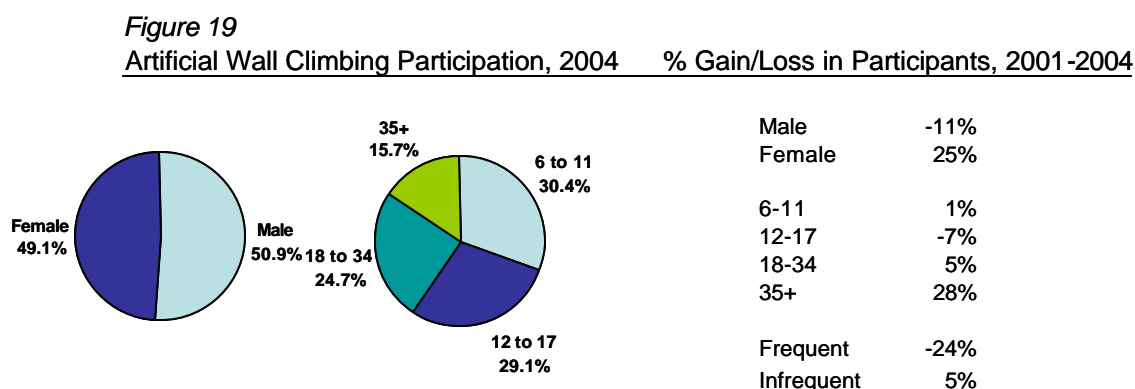
**Figure 17**



- Horseback riding. Despite an increase in popularity from 2002-2003, participant numbers in this activity declined 11.7% from 2001 to 2004 (see table 9). Still, some 14.7 million Americans rode horses in 2004, making it comparable in size to ice skating or slow pitch softball. The decline in horseback riding's participant base over the last four years was seen in all age groups except age 55+ and also occurred among both frequent and occasional riders (see figure 18).



- Artificial wall climbing. This activity had been the fastest growing of the outdoor category, but in 2004 experienced its first significant decline in participants since American Sports Data began including it in their survey in 1999. In 2004, wall climbing lost one million participants from its high of 8.6 million reached in 2003 (see table 9). The 2003-2004 decline was felt across most demographic segments. Despite the near term bad news, over the four-year period since 2001, wall climbing has attracted about 4% growth. Wall climbing also has shown widespread demographic appeal among the sexes and across age groups, although the loss of nearly one-quarter of its most frequent participants since 2001 is a negative indicator for this activity (see figure 19).



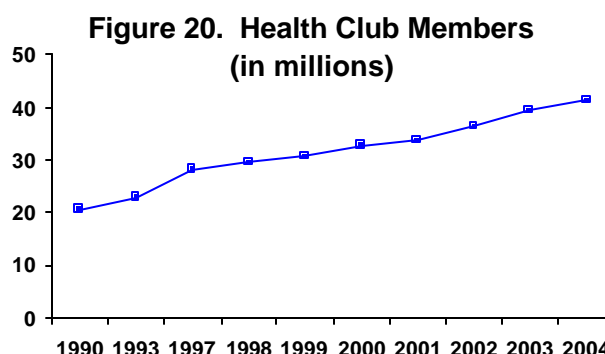
**Table 10**  
**Fitness Participation Trends in the U.S. - 1998 to 2004**

	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% Change:		
							03-04	01-04	98-04
Free Weights (Net)	41,266	<u>44,499</u>	<u>45,407</u>	48,261	51,567	52,056	0.9%	14.6%	26.1%
Dumbbells	23,414	25,241	26,773	28,933	30,549	31,415	2.8%	17.3%	34.2%
Hand Weights	23,325	27,086	27,078	28,453	29,720	30,143	1.4%	11.3%	29.2%
Barbells	21,263	21,972	23,030	24,812	25,645	24,103	-6.0%	4.7%	13.4%
Treadmill Exercise	37,073	40,816	41,638	43,431	45,572	47,463	4.1%	14.0%	28.0%
Stretching	35,114	36,408	38,120	38,367	42,096	40,799	-3.1%	7.0%	16.2%
Fitness Walking	36,395	36,207	36,445	37,981	37,945	40,299	6.2%	10.6%	10.7%
Running/Jogging	34,962	33,680	34,857	35,866	36,152	37,310	3.2%	7.0%	6.7%
Stationary Cycling (Net)	<u>30,791</u>	<u>28,795</u>	<u>28,720</u>	<u>29,083</u>	<u>30,952</u>	<u>31,431</u>	1.5%	9.4%	2.1%
Upright Bikes	20,744	17,894	17,483	17,403	17,488	17,889	2.3%	2.3%	-13.8%
Recumbent Bikes	6,773	8,947	8,654	10,217	10,683	11,227	5.1%	29.7%	65.8%
Group Cycling (Spinning)	6,776	5,431	6,418	6,135	6,462	6,777	4.9%	5.6%	0.0%
Resistance Machines	22,519	25,182	25,942	27,848	29,996	30,903	3.0%	19.1%	37.2%
Calisthenics	30,982	27,790	29,392	26,862	28,007	25,562	-8.7%	-13.0%	-17.5%
Other Exercise to Music	13,846	12,337	13,076	13,540	14,159	16,365	15.6%	25.2%	18.2%
Aerobics (Net)	21,017	<u>17,326</u>	<u>16,948</u>	16,046	16,451	15,767	-4.2%	-7.0%	-25.0%
Low-Impact	12,774	9,752	10,026	9,286	8,813	8,493	-3.6%	-15.3%	-33.5%
Step	10,784	8,963	8,542	8,336	8,457	8,257	-2.4%	-3.3%	-23.4%
High-Impact	7,460	5,581	6,401	5,423	5,875	5,521	-6.0%	-13.7%	-26.0%
Elliptical Motion Trainer	3,863	6,176	8,255	10,695	13,415	15,678	16.9%	89.9%	305.9%
Fitness Swimming	15,258	14,060	15,300	14,542	15,899	15,636	-1.7%	2.2%	2.5%
Stair-Climbing	18,609	15,828	15,117	14,251	14,321	13,300	-7.1%	-12.0%	-28.5%
Yoga/Tai Chi	5,708	7,400	9,741	11,106	13,371	12,414	-7.2%	27.4%	117.5%
Pilates Training	#N/A	1,739	2,437	4,671	9,469	10,541	11.3%	332.5%	#N/A
Fitness Bicycling	13,556	11,435	10,761	11,153	12,048	10,210	-15.3%	-5.1%	-24.7%
Home Gym Exercise	7,577	8,103	8,497	8,924	9,260	9,347	0.9%	10.0%	23.4%
Rowing Machine	7,485	6,229	7,089	7,092	6,484	7,303	12.6%	3.0%	-2.4%
Martial Arts	5,368	5,722	5,999	5,996	6,883	6,898	0.2%	15.0%	28.5%
Aquatic Exercise	6,685	6,367	7,103	6,995	7,141	5,812	-18.6%	-18.2%	-13.1%
Cardio Kickboxing	#N/A	7,163	6,665	5,940	5,489	4,773	-13.0%	-28.4%	#N/A
Cross-Country Ski Machine	6,870	5,444	4,924	5,074	4,744	4,155	-12.4%	-15.6%	-39.5%
Aggregate Participation-Strength Training & Cardio Equipment Use:									
Cardio Machine Use (Net)	#N/A	#N/A	63,481	65,770	72,125	72,914	1.1%	14.9%	#N/A
Strength Training (Net)	#N/A	#N/A	61,340	64,974	69,510	70,684	1.7%	15.2%	#N/A

Shows number of Americans (in thousands) age 6+ who participated at least once annually.

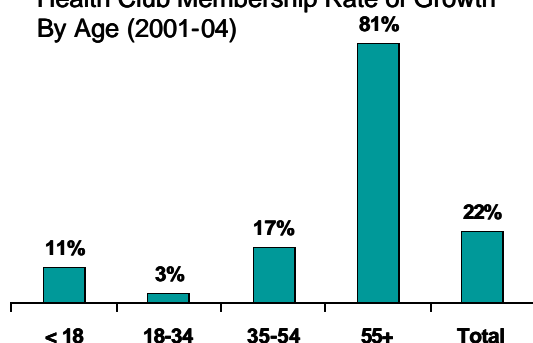
## Key Trends – Fitness Activity Participation

- The popularity of fitness continues to grow. Health club membership trends are often viewed as a useful barometer of the health and popularity of the fitness industry on a macro level. Nationally, health clubs added 1.9 million members between 2003 and 2004, and 7.5 million members since 2001 (see figure 20). The rate of member growth has averaged 7.4% annually since 2001 – 22.2% overall. Factors contributing to this steady growth include the following:

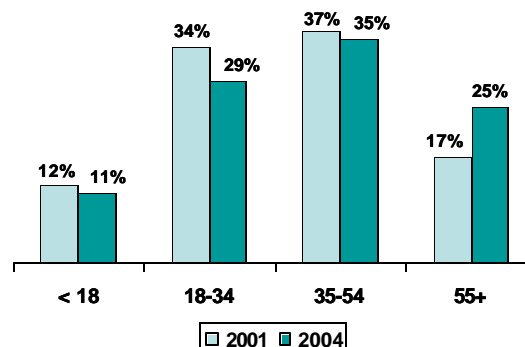


- New facilities. The industry keeps adding new health clubs at a steady pace – an additional 39% between 2001 and 2004. Industry analysts have noted that many of these were smaller, niche clubs that tout some combination of the following competitive benefits: lower costs, express workouts, and services targeted toward a specific market such as the deconditioned, a specific demographic segment (most commonly women) or activity-specific training.
- Above average growth in the number of members who are seniors. The entry of large numbers of members age 55 and older into health clubs has changed the face of the market over time. The rate of growth among senior club members was more than 3.5 times the average industry growth rate of 22% (see figure 21). As recently as 2001, 34% of health club members nationwide were young adults (age 18-34) and about 17% were 55 and older. The proportion of young adults has now dropped to 29%, while seniors currently comprise a quarter of all health club members (see figure 22).

**Figure 21.**  
Health Club Membership Rate of Growth By Age (2001-04)



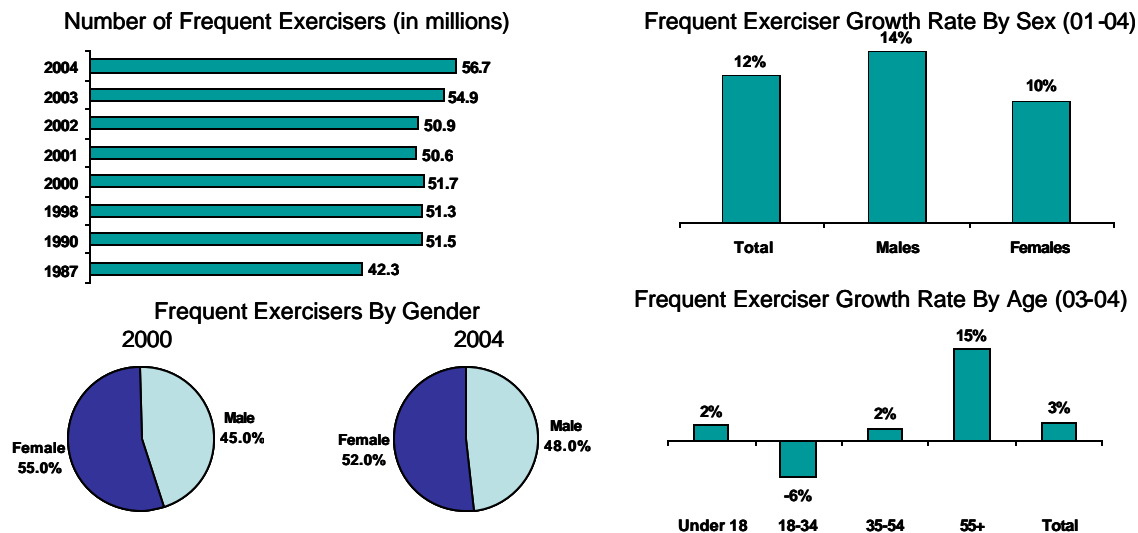
**Figure 22.**  
Health Club Membership By Age (2001-04)



- The overall number of core fitness enthusiasts, those who participate in fitness activities at least 100 days or more per year, grew appreciably for the second consecutive year in 2004. There are now 12% more frequent exercisers in America than there were in 2001. Virtually all of that growth has occurred within the last two years (see figure 23). Two demographic groups appear largely responsible for this expansion – males and seniors. Traditionally,

females have outnumbered males in the ranks of frequent exercisers (55% vs. 45% as recently as 2000). However, the frequent exerciser growth rate has been higher for males than for females in the past few years. As a result, the proportions of male and female frequent exercisers are edging closer together. Due to recent growth, males now account for 48% of this group.

**Figure 23. Frequent Exercisers (participated 100+ days/year)**



2001 data was not available to assess the '01-'04 growth in frequent exercisers by age. However, 2003 and 2004 data were available (see figure 23) and indicate that, by age, seniors were largely responsible for the growth in frequent exercisers.

- Aggregate participation in strength training and use of cardiovascular exercise equipment each grew an additional 15% over the course of the strategic planning period. 72.9 million Americans used all types of cardio machines to exercise in 2004 and 70.7 million engaged in some form of strength training (see table 10). Demographic profiles for these two aggregate activities and the drivers of recent growth are shown in figure 24.

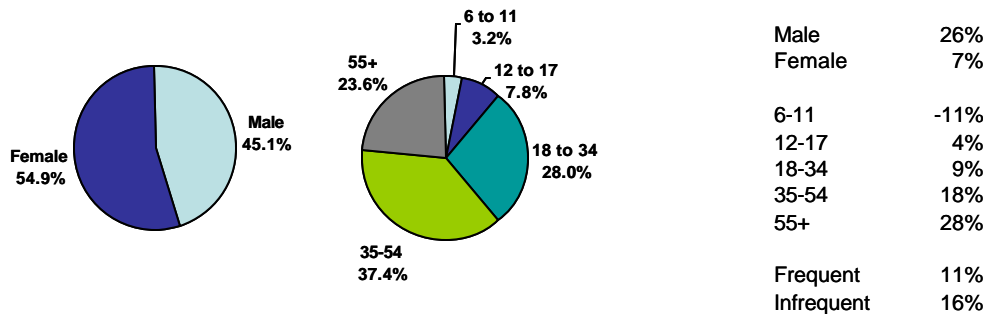
Both activities enjoy broad appeal, although cardio equipment exercise attracts a slightly greater proportion of females and strength training attracts a slightly higher proportion of males. Exercising with cardio equipment is becoming more universal. The proportion of cardio equipment exercisers that are male increased from 41% to 45% between 2001 and 2004. The percentage of strength training participants that are female actually dropped from 48% to 46% due to a higher rate of growth among males.

- Key sources of growth were similar for both cardio equipment exercise and strength training – males, middle-aged adults and seniors had the highest growth rates in both activities.
- Both activities also experienced a hefty increase in frequent participants (11% respectively). Seniors were the key driver of growth among frequent participants in both activities.



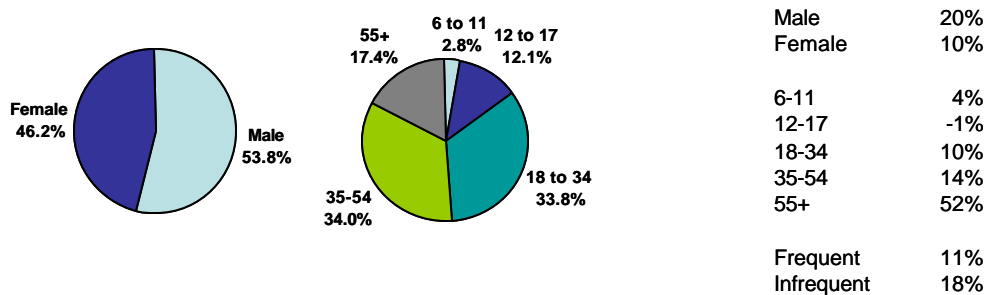
Figure 24

Exercise With Cardio Equipment (Net), 2004 % Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004



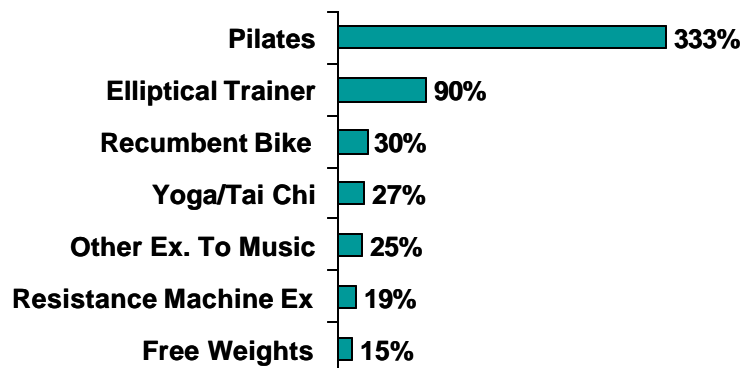
Strength Training (Net), 2004

% Gain/Loss in Participants, 2001-2004



- Low impact forms of exercise dominated the list of the fastest growing fitness activities from 2001 – 2004 (see figure 25). The ascendance of the so-called ‘softer’ forms of exercise is now well established as an important fitness trend, due largely to the aging of the Baby Boom generation of fitness enthusiasts. These activities are generally low impact and tend to integrate mind and body aspects into exercise routines. Pilates and Yoga/Tai Chi typify the mind/body exercise trend. The top four activities on the list also include two low impact versions of cardio equipment exercise – the elliptical trainer and recumbent bike exercise. The next activity on the list, other exercise to music, typifies the trend toward fusion classes that combine several workout styles with one of any number of rhythms, including African, Caribbean, Latin, hip-hop, funk and others. Rounding out the list are two strength training alternatives – resistance machines and free weights.

Figure 25.  
Fastest Growing Fitness Activities  
(% growth in total participants, 2001-04)



- Demographic profiles for the fastest growing fitness activities are shown in table 11. Note that the programmatic activities are female-dominant, the strength training activities are more male-dominant, and the cardio equipment exercise alternatives have a more even male/female distribution. Other exercise to music sports a younger age profile than all of the other activities. It is the only activity in the group to attract a significant youth participant base. On the other side of the age spectrum, Yoga/Tai Chi and recumbent bike exercise attract the largest proportion of senior participants. The strength training activities have the highest incidence of frequent participants, followed by the cardio equipment activities and other exercise to music.

<b>Table 11. Fastest Growing Fitness Activities - Demographic/Use Profile</b>							<b>Frequent Participants</b>
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18 to 34</b>	<b>35 to 54</b>	<b>55+</b>	
Pilates	11%	89%	12%	47%	30%	11%	13%
Yoga/Tai Chi	21%	79%	12%	35%	33%	20%	16%
Elliptical Trainer	45%	55%	6%	38%	43%	13%	25%
Recumbent Bike	47%	53%	8%	29%	38%	25%	23%
Other Exercise to Music	15%	85%	26%	29%	28%	17%	24%
Resistance Machine Exercise	56%	44%	13%	32%	37%	18%	31%
Free Weights	57%	43%	17%	35%	32%	16%	33%

## **Summary – Were Americans More Active in 2004 than in 2001?**

This report summarized national participation trends in more than 60 sports, recreation and fitness activities in six categories with an emphasis on describing participation patterns in the four-year period roughly corresponding with the Park Authority's strategic planning cycle that is just ending. In presenting this kind of information it is easy to get mired in the details and lose site of bigger picture trends. The approach here has been to identify broad themes under the assumption that they are more useful at a policy level than wave after wave of details at the individual activity level. Perhaps the broadest question of all remains unanswered, that is, for this particular set of recreation activities, were Americans more or less active in 2004 than they were in 2001?

Given the limitations of the available data, this question was answered by calculating the rate of growth or decline in number of participants for each activity, followed by a count of the number of activities in which the number of participants grew or declined. Calculations were done for total participation as well as by gender and age group. The results are summarized in table 12 on the following page.

- As the table shows, Americans generally seemed to be participating less in sports, recreation and fitness activity in 2004 than they had a few years earlier in 2001. 55% of the activities studied had a smaller number of total participants in 2004 than they had in 2001, while the remaining 45% had growing participant bases. Further analysis showed differences by gender and age.
  - Female participation declined in a larger number of activities than male participation. In 48% of the activities, male participation increased compared to only 38% of activities for females.

- Finally, youth participation declined in a larger number of activities than was the case for older Americans. The number of 6 to 11 year olds declined in 71% of the activities included in the report and the number of teens declined in 81% of the activities. The picture then improved gradually through successively older age groups. The number of young adult participants dropped from 2001-2004 in 57% of the activities, middle-aged participants declined in number in only 40%, and the number of seniors declined in only 14% of the activities studied.

<b>Table 12</b>		
<b>2001-2004: % of Activities In Which The</b>		
<b>Number of Participants...</b>		
	<b>Grew</b>	<b>Declined</b>
Total Participants	45%	55%
Male	48%	52%
Female	38%	62%
6 to 11	29%	71%
12 to 17	19%	81%
18 to 34	43%	57%
35-54	60%	40%
55 and older	86%	14%

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

## **ADMINISTRATIVE - 1**

### Adoption of Minutes – February 8, 2006 and February 22, 2006 Park Authority Board Meeting

#### ISSUE:

Approval of the minutes of the February 8, 2006 and February 22, 2006 Park Authority Board meeting.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the minutes of the February 8, 2006 and February 22, 2006 Park Authority Board meeting.

#### TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2006.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

None

#### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Minutes of the February 8, 2006 and February 22, 2006 Park Authority Board meeting

#### STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director  
Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer  
Nancy L. Brumit, Administrative Assistant

**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Board Meeting  
February 8, 2006**

The Chairman convened the meeting at 9:35 p.m. at Park Authority Headquarters, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

**Board Members**

Harold L. Strickland, Chairman  
Joanne E. Malone, Vice Chairman  
Frank S. Vajda, Secretary-Treasurer  
Edward R. Batten, Sr.  
William G. Bouie  
Kevin J. Fay  
Kenneth G. Feng  
Harry Glasgow  
Georgette Kohler  
George E. Lovelace  
Gilbert S. McCutcheon  
Winifred S. Shapiro

Guest Dennis Bates, County Attorney's  
Office

**Staff**

Michael A. Kane, Director  
Timothy K. White, Deputy Director  
Nancy L. Brumit, Administrative Assistant  
  
Charlie Bittenbring  
Bob Brennan  
Elisa Lueck  
Cindy Messinger  
Miriam Morrison  
Judy Pedersen  
Lynn Tadlock  
  
Seema Ajrawat  
Ray Alexander  
Kirk Holley  
John Lehman  
Barbara Nugent

**AGENDA CHANGES**

Mr. Strickland asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. Mr. Kane requested that Closed Session-1 Legal Matters and Closed Session-2 Land Acquisition Matters be considered at the start of the Park Authority Board meeting. **There were no objections from the Park Authority Board.**

Mrs. Shapiro requested that the February 8, 2006 Park Authority Board meeting begin with the Closed Session items scheduled originally on the February 8, 2006 Planning and Development Committee Agenda (Legal and Land Acquisition Matters). Mrs. Shapiro requested that Item 12 Quarterly Status Report - Presentation from the Planning and Development Committee Agenda be moved to the Park Authority Board Agenda as I-2. Quarterly Status Report. **There were no objections from the Park Authority Board.**

### **CLOSED SESSION #1**

Legal Matters were discussed.

At 8:48 p.m. Mr. Feng **MOVED** the Park Authority Board return to the Open Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. Strickland, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION #1**

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board certify that, to the best of our knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia Code 2.2-3712 and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.

### **ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION #1**

**NOTE: For consistency in reporting and future research, the Administrative Assistant keeps all items in numerical order as discussed during Closed Session.**

#### **C-1. Legal Matter in the Dranesville District**

Mr. McCutcheon **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve a settlement offer for the project in the Dranesville District as discussed in Closed Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda and **APPROVED** with Ms. Malone, Messrs. Feng and Batten voting **NAY**.

#### **C-2. Potential Lawsuit – Athletic Field Lighting (Countywide)**

Mrs. Shapiro **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve a motion that the Park Authority suspends all further procurement of athletic field lighting systems by any third parties including youth groups until generic specifications are completed. Further, Mr. Feng requested that the record show that the board expects the specifications to be completed in one month; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda and **APPROVED** with

Messrs. Strickland, Feng, Fay, Batten and Bouie voting **NAY**.

Mr. Fay reminded Board Members to consider that when the Athletic Field Lighting Study was authorized that it was not to impact any current lighting procurement projects.

## **CLOSED SESSION #2**

Land Acquisition Matters were discussed.

At 9:25 p.m. Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board return to the Open Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.

## **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION #2**

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board certify that, to the best of our knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia Code 2.2-3712 and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.

## **ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION #2**

**NOTE: For consistency in reporting and future research, the Administrative Assistant keeps all items in numerical order as discussed during Closed Session.**

- C-3**                    **FY 2005 – 2006 Land Acquisition Work Plan (Countywide)**  
Mrs. Shapiro **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve staff's recommendation to add/replace property in the Sully District on the FY2005 – 2006 Land Acquisition Work Plan as discussed in Closed Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. Bouie, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.
- C-4**                    **Update on Land Acquisition in the Mason District**  
Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board accept staff's recommendation to amend the acquisition of property in the Mason District with the caveats as discussed in Closed Session; **SECONDED** by Ms. Malone and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.
- C-5**                    **Update on Land Acquisition in the Dranesville District**  
  
There was no action on this item.

**C-6                    FY 2005 – 2006 Land Acquisition Work Plan / 2005 Fourth Quarter Status Report**

There was no action on this item.

At 9:35 p.m. Mr. Strickland continued with the February 8, 2006 Park Authority Board Agenda.

**PRESENTATION**

**P-1     Annual Recreation Trends**

This item was deferred.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**A-1     Scope Approval - Patriot Park Phase I Development**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006 and was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mr. Feng **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the project scope for Phase I development of Patriot Park to include a lighted artificial turf field with amenities, and all related support facilities; **SECONDED** by Mr. Batten, and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler being out-of-the-room.

There was no discussion on this item.

**A-2     Approval of Policy 407, Construction of Donated Facilities/Structures on Park Land**

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the proposed policy addition to the Fairfax County Park Authority Policy Manual regarding donated facilities/structures proposed for construction on Park Authority property; **SECONDED** by Ms. Malone, and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler being out-of-the-room. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-3     Approval of Agreement with Fairfax County Water Authority to Use a Portion of the Griffith Water Treatment Plant Property for Park Purposes**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006 and was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mr. McCutcheon **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the agreement with Fairfax County Water Authority to use a portion of the Griffith Water Treatment Plant property for park

**DRAFT MINUTES**



purposes; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda, and **APPROVED** with Mr. Fay **ABSTAINING** and Ms. Kohler being out-of-the-room. There was no discussion on this item.

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**INFORMATION ITEMS****I-1 Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis as of June 30, 2005**

This item was reviewed by the Budget Committee on January 25, 2006 and was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis as of June 30, 2005. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**I-2 Quarterly Status Report – Presentation**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006 and was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

At the request of Mrs. Shapiro, the board reviewed the item regarding Quarterly Status Report-Presentation directly from the February 8, 2006 Planning and Development Committee Agenda. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS****• Managed Hunt at Sully Woodlands**

Mr. Strickland reported that 70 deer were harvested during the managed hunt at Sully Woodlands. It was determined that the deer were in good health, and it did appear that there was an overgrazing problem in the area.

**• Prescribed Burn at Sully Woodlands**

Mr. Strickland reported that the prescribed burn was held earlier in the day (Wednesday, February 8, 2006) in a meadow area off Pleasant Valley Road as part of an ongoing resource management program to preserve and enhance healthy meadow complexes on park land and are consistent with resource management recommendations for the park sites. Ms. Kohler shared photos of the burn with the board members.

Three county agencies participated in the prescribed field burn at Sully Woodlands: Park Authority, Fire and Rescue Department (Station 17, Clifton Station and the Fire Marshall's Office), and Fairfax County Police Department (Animal Control Division's Wildlife Biologist). Twenty acres of grassland were burned in approximately four hours, removing the duff layer and fuel from the site. There were no injuries to staff or loss of equipment. The weather was perfect. Staff controlled traffic on Pleasant Valley Road; there were no accidents or incidents associated with the burn and no complaints have been received.



- **Coyotes Sited Near Cub Run RECenter**

Mr. Strickland reported that the naturalist at Cub Run RECenter along with the county biologist confirmed that there are two groups of coyotes in the area and they seem to be doing well. They are trying to entice the coyotes to eat the eggs of the geese that are creating problems on the golf courses. Mr. Strickland stated that he was pleased that the Resource Management Division staff are looking after the agency's ownership.

- **Concorde District Swimming Championships Held at Cub Run RECenter Pool**

Mr. Strickland reported that he was pleased to report that the Concorde District swimming championships were held at Cub Run RECenter on Saturday, February 4, 2006. Six high schools participated. The Chantilly girls won their division title and the Robinson boys captured their first Concorde District title.

- **Site Tours**

Mr. Strickland stated that he had asked Mr. White to schedule visits to various park facilities for the Executive Committee on the first or third Wednesdays of each month. Mr. White stated that the tours would be conducted on the third Wednesday of the month and would take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mr. Strickland invited the board members to participate.

Mr. Strickland indicated that he hoped that these tours would help to put a face with a name and to become more familiar with the facilities.

- **Committee Assignments**

In keeping with the Park Authority By-laws, the Chairman of the Board is to assign members of the board to various committees. Mr. Strickland asked the board members to submit any committee requests to him before the February 22, 2006 board meeting.

## **DIRECTOR'S MATTERS**

- **2005 Land Conservation Award**

Mr. Kane displayed the 2005 Land Conservation Award, which was presented to the Park Authority on January 20, 2006. Mr. Kane had previously reported on January 11, 2006 that the Park Authority was being recognized under special projects in the erosion and sediment control category for work at Lake Fairfax Park. Representing the Park Authority at the award ceremony were staff members John Lehman, Jim Duncan, Lynn Tadlock and Remi Chehade.

- **Showbiz**

Mr. Kane reported that "showbiz" has left its mark on Fairfax County Parks with three separate but notable events regarding filmmakers in our parks:

1. **The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill)**

The Independent Film "The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill)" filmed in part at Frying Pan Park and the Chantilly/Ox Hill Battlefield, will have its public premiere at the Cinema Arts Theatre, on Pickett Road and Main Street, in Fairfax, at 10 am, on March 4, 2006. Admission is \$5.

2. **Breach**

Mr. Kane noted that as they speak filming is underway at Foxstone Park in Vienna on *Breach*, a dramatic thriller about Robert Hanssen and his exploits as a spy. The Universal Studios picture has a large crew in that park, as well as at the entrance to Nottoway Park. They have been in production for four days. Today's shoot is located at the footbridge in Foxstone Park and calls for a snowy scene. Ice has been made and is covering the ground at that location.

3. **American Red Cross**

Mr. Kane reported that in other showbiz news, Audrey Moore RECenter's gymnasium was the scene of filming for a Red Cross Video on CPR this past Tuesday.

All in all, these three productions generated approximately \$8,000 in fees for the Park Authority.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE RECORD**

**NOTE: No committee minutes were entered FOR THE RECORD at this meeting. Committee minutes are entered FOR THE RECORD during the second Park Authority Board meeting each month.**

## **BOARD MATTERS**

- **Joanne E. Malone**

Ms. Malone had no Board Matters.

- **Frank S. Vajda**

Mr. Vajda reported that he shared Mr. Strickland's letter to Chairman Connolly regarding the interim bond with Supervisor Gross. She had indicated that Chairman Connolly had not shared the letter with the board. Mr. Bouie indicated that Supervisor Hudgins had not seen the letter either. Mr. Vajda stated that Supervisor Gross had some reservations about an interim bond and would like to have further discussions.

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

Mr. Vajda stated that the talking points were very good, but based on the supervisor's comments, perhaps talking points on the needs assessment study and how the other bond issues fit into the program would be useful. Mr. Vajda suggested that this would be a good topic for discussion at the joint meeting on February 27, 2006.

- **Gilbert S. McCutcheon**

Mr. McCutcheon had no Board Matters.

- **Winifred S. Shapiro**

Mrs. Shapiro noted that the Connection newspaper ran a story on the Lake Accotink dredging. Someone who read the article contacted Supervisor Bulova and indicated that the Park Authority should expand the dredging. After discussions with her Supervisor, Mrs. Shapiro reported that Supervisor Bulova expressed support for using money from the Board of Supervisors' stormwater management fund. Mrs. Shapiro formally requested Park Authority staff to discuss both of these possibilities with DPWES staff.

- **Kenneth G. Feng**

Mr. Feng had no Board Matters.

- **Kevin J. Fay**

Mr. Fay had no Board Matters.

- **Edward R. Batten, Sr.**

Mr. Batten reported that on January 31, 2006 he, Tim White and Mike Kane met with Supervisor Kauffman for their quarterly meeting. Mr. Batten felt there was a great deal of appreciation and understanding for what the Park Authority is doing. Mr. Batten was pleased that Messrs. Kane and White could take the time to attend the meeting.

- **Georgette Kohler**

Ms. Kohler had no Board Matters.

- **George E. Lovelace**

Mr. Lovelace thanked the Park Authority for the increase in traffic congestion in the Town of Vienna as a result of the movie being made. It's quite exciting for Vienna.

Mr. Lovelace noted that synthetic turf fields are a topic of great interest now and that the Park Authority is developing a number of turf fields, but people are unaware that the Park Authority is doing anything. Mr. Lovelace asked that a list be compiled of the fields that are being constructed and posted on the Park Authority's website. Mr. Lovelace stated that this could help him in his conversations with the Athletic Council to speak from a position of activity and strength.

Mr. Lovelace thanked Elisa Lueck for her help providing language regarding House Bill 1368. The Town of Vienna was opposed to the bill as well, and he wanted to make sure he was consistent with what the Park Authority had issued.

- **Harrison A. Glasgow**

Mr. Glasgow reminded the board that at on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at 10 a.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park a volunteer award ceremony will take place.

Mr. Glasgow reported that he spent Tuesday, February 7, 2006 in Richmond, lobbying as a private citizen.

- **William G. Bouie**

Mr. Bouie reported that the final public hearing for Lawyers Road Park was held on January 26, 2006. He thanked Hal Strickland, Winnie Shapiro, Georgette Kohler and her husband, and Joanne Malone for attending. Mr. Bouie noted that we are now in the public comment period. Mr. Bouie reported that he had received a note from George Lovelace regarding a citizen from the Carriage Hill HOA requesting a meeting with Supervisor Hudgins and himself about their traffic concerns. Mr. Bouie noted that he will contact the constituent to let them know that they have been heard. Mr. Bouie stated that traffic is the issue that will hold up this project; however, the park has been well-received by the community.

Mr. Strickland added that Irish Grandfield, Sandy Stallman, and Judy Pedersen had done a good job presenting the information. Mr. Strickland noted that the traffic issue is not going away. Supervisor Hudgins indicated to him that she has talked for years about potentially widening Lawyers Road, but is met with the fact that the citizens do not want to upset the ambiance of the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:05 p.m. Mr. Vajda **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board meeting be adjourned;  
**SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon, and **APPROVED** with all Board Members being present.

Minutes Approved at Meeting  
on

---

Frank S. Vajda  
Secretary-Treasurer

---

Michael A. Kane, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

---

Nancy L. Brumit, Administrative Assistant

**DRAFT MINUTES**



**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Board Meeting  
February 22, 2006**

The Chairman convened the meeting at 7:50 p.m. at Park Authority Headquarters, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

**Board Members**

Harold L. Strickland, Chairman  
Joanne E. Malone, Vice Chairman\*  
Frank S. Vajda, Secretary-Treasurer  
Edward R. Batten, Sr.  
William G. Bouie  
Kevin J. Fay  
Kenneth G. Feng  
Harry Glasgow  
Georgette Kohler\*  
George E. Lovelace  
Gilbert S. McCutcheon  
Winifred S. Shapiro

\*Board Members Absent

Guests: Robin Rentsch

Interns: Elizabeth Scerbo  
Deanna Berry  
Herbie Hastie

**Staff**

Michael A. Kane, Director  
Timothy K. White, Deputy Director  
Nancy L. Brumit, Administrative Assistant

Charlie Bittenbring  
Bob Brennan  
Elisa Lueck  
Cindy Messinger  
Miriam Morrison  
Judy Pedersen  
Lynn Tadlock

Ray Alexander  
Mike Baird  
Curt Dierdorff  
Jim Duncan  
Peter Furey  
Tawny Hammond  
Kirk Holley  
Chris Hoppe  
John Lehman  
Leon Nowojchik  
Barbara Nugent  
Kay Rutledge  
Don Sweeney  
Bethan Timmes  
Janet Tetley  
Janet Weaver  
Cindy Walsh

**AGENDA CHANGES**

Mr. Strickland asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. Since there were no changes,

Mr. Strickland announced that he would proceed with the Agenda as publicized. **There were no objections from the Park Authority Board.**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**PRESENTATION****P-1 Introduction of Winter 2006 Interns**

The Park Authority Board welcomed three interns for the winter of 2006. Janet Tetley, Park Authority Intern Coordinator, introduced the interns, who will be working in the Park Services Division.

**Elizabeth “Lizzy” Scerbo** is a senior at James Madison University majoring in Recreation Studies and concentrating in Recreation Management.

**Deanna Berry** is a senior at Radford University majoring in Recreation, Parks and Tourism with a concentration in Recreation Management.

**Herbie Hastie** is a senior at East Carolina University majoring in Parks and Recreation.

Mrs. Tetley also introduced the interns' mentors: Tawny Hammond and Janet Weaver, who have supervised a number of interns over the years and have added so much to the success of this program.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS****ADMIN-1 Resolution Honoring Christopher J. Hoppe upon His Retirement from the Park Authority (with Presentation)**

Mr. Bouie **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the resolution honoring Christopher J. Hoppe upon his retirement; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Kane read and Mr. Strickland presented the Resolution to Chris Hoppe. Mr. Hoppe thanked the Park Authority Board and staff.

**ADMIN-2 Resolution Honoring Robin Rentsch for a Decade of Volunteer Service (with Presentation)**

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the resolution honoring Robin Rentsch for a decade of volunteer service; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Kane read and Mr. Strickland presented the Resolution to

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Robin Rentsch. Ms. Rentsch thanked the Park Authority Board and staff and stated that she had not quit yet.

**ADMIN-3 Resolution Honoring Curt Dierdorff for Outstanding Service to the Park Authority (with Presentation)**

Mr. Fay **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the resolution honoring Curt Dierdorff for outstanding Service to the Park Authority; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Kane read and Mr. Strickland presented the Resolution to Curt Dierdorff. Mr. Dierdorff thanked the Park Authority Board and staff.

**ADMIN-4 Resolution Honoring Long and Foster Real Estate Staff in Recognition of Their Volunteer Service (with Presentation)**

Mr. Bouie **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the resolution honoring Long and Foster Real Estate staff in recognition of their volunteer service; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Kane read and Mr. Strickland presented the Resolution to Ellen Lucas, staff representative from Long and Foster. Leon Nawojchik assisted in the presentation. Ms. Lucas thanked the Park Authority Board and Mr. Nawojchik.

**ADMIN-5 Approval – Request for Land Dedication for Green Spring Manor Preliminary Plat, 5487-PL-002-1**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the following summary comments regarding the application for Green Spring Manor, 5487-PL-002-1.

Request the dedication of a .5 acre section of the applicant's property, located in the southeast corner of the proposed development, to the Fairfax County Park Authority. This area includes a wetland and additional open space which is adjacent to Green Spring Gardens. The wetland acts as a sponge and filter for a rare magnolia bog that is downstream within the park. By adding the wetland to Green Spring Gardens, the park will

be able to preserve this unique ecological feature, as well as the benefits it provides to the ecology of the park.

The MOTION was **SECONDED** by Mr. Bouie and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

**A-1      FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review - Fund 001, Park Authority General Fund**

Mr. Bouie **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the submission of the FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review for Fund 001, Park Authority General Fund to the Department of Management and Budget, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-2      FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review - Fund 371, Park Capital Improvement Fund**

Mr. Batten **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the submission of the FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review for Fund 371, Park Capital Improvement Fund to the Department of Management and Budget, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-3      Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program Request - McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc. - Falstaff Park**

Mr. Fay **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program request from the McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000 for the installation of trees and landscape beds adjacent to the newly renovated playground at Falstaff Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-4        Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program Request - McLean Hunt Estates Park**

Mr. Fay **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program request from the McLean Hunt Estates Civic Association in the amount of \$4,724 to reconstruct 3,000 linear feet of asphalt trails within McLean Hunt Estates Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-5        Scope Approval - Ossian Hall Park Phase 1 Improvements**

Mrs. Shapiro **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the project scope to design, permit and construct phase I improvements to Ossian Hall Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-6        Transfer of County-Owned Property Known as Mt. Gilead to the Fairfax County Park Authority**

Mr. Vajda **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve, by way of quitclaim deed, the transfer of the Mt. Gilead House and property, located on Tax Map 54-4 ((1)) 38A and containing 6.925 acres, from the Board of Supervisors to the Fairfax County Park Authority for park purposes, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Feng and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**A-7        Approval of a Telecommunication License Agreement for APC Realty and Equipment Company, LLC, at the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site**

Mr. Feng **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the license agreement between Fairfax County Park Authority and APC Realty and Equipment Company, LLC, to install telecommunication equipment and related structures at the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent. There was no discussion on this item.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**I-1      FY 2006 Second Quarter Budget Status as of December 31, 2005 -  
Fund 001, Park Authority General Fund**

This item was reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding FY 2006 Second Quarter Budget Status as of December 31, 2005 - Fund 001, Park Authority General Fund. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**I-2      FY 2006 Second Quarter Budget Status as of December 31, 2005 -  
Fund 170, Park Authority Revenue Fund**

This item was reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding FY 2006 Second quarter Budget Status as of December 31, 2005 – Fund 170, Park Authority Revenue Fund. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**I-3      FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review - Fund 170, Park Revenue Fund**

This item was reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review - Fund 170, Park Revenue Fund. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**I-4      FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review - Fund 370, Park Authority Bond  
Construction**

This item was reviewed by the Budget Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding FY 2006 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 370, Park Authority Bond Construction. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**I-5 Lee District Master Plan Revision Update**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 8, 2006 and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

The board reviewed the item regarding Lee District Master Plan Revision Update. No action was necessary. There was no discussion on this item.

**CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS**

- Mr. Strickland reminded the Board Members of the Joint Meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the Park Authority Board on Monday, February 27, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 232 at the Government Center. Mr. Kane distributed copies of the PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Kane noted that the presentation incorporates comments from the Board Members and he has trimmed down the presentation so that the highlights represent the meat of the discussion, which hopefully will be on the request for an interim bond referendum.

Mr. Strickland asked the Board members to contact Mr. Kane if they have any changes.

Mr. Fay inquired about the land acquisition requirements listed in the Needs Assessment. Mr. Kane noted that he will have some very specific speaking points about the need for other developable properties in order to meet the facility needs that the agency has as a result of the needs study, over and above the 10%. Because recent land acquisitions have been for non-developable properties, the challenge is to find developable properties and turn them into opportunities for facility development at the cost and quantity considerably higher than what the agency will want to pay.

Mr. Fay reported that had asked Supervisor DuBois to discuss the proposed school land swap with Chairman Connolly when she meets with him later in the week. Mr. Fay stated that he would inform the Board of any additional information he may receive, and encouraged the Park Authority Board members to have discussions with their respective Supervisors prior to the joint meeting.

**Director's Matters:**

- **Oak Marr Golf Center Named Fairfax County's Favorite Golf Course**

Mr. Kane reported that Oak Marr Golf Center has been named Fairfax County's favorite golf course by the Times Community Newspapers in its annual readers' survey. The weekly newspaper chain, which has 12 newspapers and a circulation of 176,000 in Fairfax County, polled for the people's choice on everything from colleges and restaurants to grocery stores and golf courses. A Times representative attributed the popularity of Oak Marr's executive course to convenience, noting that it is a perfect match for the busy schedules of Fairfax County residents.



- **Cub Run RECenter Earns Another Accolade**

Mr. Kane reported that Cub Run RECenter has earned yet another accolade. This one is from the Virginia Chapter of the American Public Works Association (AWPA), which named Cub Run RECenter as the Project of the Year at its annual awards program. This award recognizes the partnership between the managing agency, the consultant, architect or engineer, and the contractor who, working together, complete public works projects.

Awards are divided into five categories that include Emergency/Disaster Preparedness, Historical Restoration/Preservation, Structures, Transportation, and Environment. Each category is further divided based on the cost of the project from less than \$2 million to more than \$100 million. As you know, the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) managed the construction of the Cub Run RECenter on our behalf. They submitted the Cub Run RECenter in the "Projects of the Year" category.

Awards will be presented at the Chapter Conference on May 11, 2006 in Richmond, VA.

- **Park Trails Designated as Segments of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail**

Mr. Kane announced that trails in Riverbend Park and in Scott's Run Nature Preserve have been designated as segments of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST). In its letter dated February 15, 2006, the National Park Service noted substantial community support for the designation, recognition of the Trail in the County's comprehensive plans, and the connections between the trail in Riverbend Park and trails in Great Falls Park and on lands managed by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. The National Park Service also agrees to assist with securing volunteer support to mark the route in Scott's Run Nature Preserve.

- **Park Authority's Celebration of African-American History Month**

Mr. Kane called attention to a memo in the Board Members' mail packets highlighting the Park Authority's celebration of African-American History Month.

February 28, 2006 marks African-American History Month and the Park Authority is joining with others across the nation to celebrate.

In 1926 Harvard Scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson organized the first annual Negro History Week, which took place during the second week of February. Woodson chose this date to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln - two men who had greatly impacted the black population.

Over time, Negro History Week evolved into the Black or African American History Month that

we know today - a four-week-long celebration of African American History.

The Fairfax County Park Authority invited citizens to explore the lives and times of people from Virginia's past and to discover the important contributions of African Americans as their history comes to life in the parks.

At Sully Historic Site, tours of the main house highlight the daily lives of the enslaved African Americans who worked and lived at Sully over 200 years ago. You can view a special exhibit featuring archaeological artifacts from the slave quarter excavation.

This past weekend programming provided *Hands-on History* that allowed visitors to help with activities once done by those enslaved at Sully. The contributions of Madam Juba and Patty, laundresses; Thornton, cook; Jack, plowboy; George, blacksmith; Billy, carpenter and others were highlighted.

You can still join in the musical excitement found at Sully on Saturday, February 25, 2006 at Banjos, Bones and Tales from noon-3 p.m. Enjoy a combination of music, storytelling and hands-on activity at this entertaining program on the evolution of the banjo – performed by Virginia historian, interpreter and musician Carson Hudson. Learn about early percussion instruments and try your hand at playing bones. Hear tales of the African American influence on music in early Virginia homes.

And in honor of this month's celebration, the Shades of Change program that took place on Monday at Frying Pan Farm Park, which helped citizens find out how school life in Fairfax County has changed over the last 125 years. *Shades of Change: The other side of Floris*, a 42-minute video, probed what life was like for students who attended the Floris Colored School. Topics include funding, transportation, curriculum, discipline, daily routines, field day, recess and, of course, homework.

- **Athletic Field Lighting Systems Specifications**

Mr. Kane noted that following a discussion at the last Board meeting regarding some purchasing issues with regard to athletic field lighting projects, staff will be bringing the performance specifications to the Board in March, as requested. The intent is that the agency will be moving forward with the performance specifications for detailed field layout based on field type, and ultimately to a blanket field purchasing contract for athletic field lighting. The agency hopes that this will be completed within six months.

- **National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Legislative Forum and the**

**Mid-Year Meeting**

Mr. Kane reported that in his capacity as a member of the Board of Trustees he attended the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Legislative Forum and the Mid-Year Meeting. Mr. Kane distributed copies of the legislative policy positions NRPA has taken this year in terms of the federal budget and federal legislation.

The president's proposed budget includes the elimination of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) on the state side and a portion of the LWCF from the National Park Service (NPS) budget. Last year the state side budget was restored to \$30M and NRPA's position this year is to request \$100M, but any funding would be welcomed because any elimination of that program would be the certain kiss of death forever for state side LWCF.

The list provided to the Board members also includes a number of legislative pieces on healthy lifestyles. This list was provided to the delegates for use in visits to their respective congressional representatives.

- **Annual Joint Board of Supervisors / Park Authority Board Meeting**

Mr. Kane reminded the Board Members of the Annual Joint Board of Supervisors / Park Authority Board meeting on Monday, February 27, 2006 and asked that the Board members contact him with any changes or additions to the agenda.

**FOR THE RECORD**

NOTE: No committee minutes were entered FOR THE RECORD at this meeting.

**BOARD MATTERS**

- **Joanne E. Malone**

Ms. Malone had no Board Matters.

- **Frank S. Vajda**

Mr. Vajda had no Board Matters.

- **Gilbert S. McCutcheon**

Mr. McCutcheon had no Board Matters.

- **Winifred S. Shapiro**

Mrs. Shapiro had no Board Matters.

- **Kenneth G. Feng**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Mr. Feng had no Board Matters.

- **Kevin J. Fay**

Mr. Fay indicated that he would like to meet with staff regarding the action taken in Closed Session on February 8, 2006 regarding the athletic field lighting. Mr. Strickland asked that Mr. Fay speak with Mr. Kane.

- **Edward R. Batten, Sr.**

Mr. Batten indicated that he was pleased that Mr. Fay and Mr. Kane would discuss the athletic field lighting issue.

- **Georgette Kohler**

Ms. Kohler had no Board Matters.

- **George E. Lovelace**

Mr. Lovelace reported that no decision, that he is aware of, has been made by the Department of Community and Recreation Services as to which fields would be receiving synthetic turf. Mr. Lovelace stated that the Park Authority should not let too much time pass before it begins to investigate the impediments that have been identified, particularly the site plan process. This is an issue that will probably need the Board of Supervisors' support.

Mr. Lovelace feels that the agency should be developing some sort of mechanism to allow that to happen. It is very important with regard to the timeframe as well as the reduction of development time by the Park Authority. The elements that can be curtailed to some degree need to be identified, as well as identifying the maximum amount of time the agency needs to do these sites. If the agency gets an increase in funding it should be able to show some planning, some willingness and good faith.

After discussion, it was decided that there are several issues including intensity of field use, how it affects the impact of a park facility on a neighboring community, the impact of moving forward with new artificial turf projects at the expense of our existing work plan or should there be a special category outside of the regular framework of what is already being done, and meeting the demand for artificial field should be discussed during an upcoming Planning and Development Committee.

- **Harrison A. Glasgow**

Mr. Glasgow had no Board Matters.

- **William G. Bouie**

Mr. Bouie had no Board Matters.

- **Harold L. Strickland**

Mr. Strickland added that he had a draft of Standing Committee assignments. There are a number changes and they will be available on March 8, 2006.

- **Kevin J Fay**

Mr. Fay thanked Robin Rentsch for staying for the entire meeting and stated that she was one of the first volunteers he met when he became a member of the board. While resolution words are nice, they do not evoke everything they can. With that, Mr. Fay stated that if all the volunteers were of the quality, class and dedication that Ms. Rentsch had our lives would be so much easier, not to diminish the work of all the volunteers. Mr. Fay thanked her and congratulated her on her recognition.

Ms. Rentsch added that she is to ride the first horse over the horse ford on Difficult Run.

**CLOSED SESSION – There was no Closed Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:40 p.m. Mr. Vajda **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board meeting be adjourned; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon and **APPROVED** with Ms. Kohler and Ms. Malone being absent.

---

Frank S. Vajda  
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes Approved at Meeting  
on

---

Michael A. Kane, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

---

Nancy L. Brumit, Administrative Assistant

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

## **ACTION - 1**

### Approval – Placement and Renovation of Oakton School House at Oakton Community Park (Providence District)

#### ISSUE:

Authorization for staff to negotiate a Letter of Agreement related to proffers for SE -2004-PR-026, Chevy Chase Bank -Oakton Branch in general accordance with the Letter of Intent from Chevy Chase Bank, FSB, dated February 27, 2006 for the purpose of placing, permanently founding and renovating the Oakton School House at Oakton Community Park per the approved Conceptual Development Plan

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Director of the Park Authority requests authorization for staff to negotiate a Letter of Agreement related to proffers for SE 2004-PR-026, Chevy Chase Bank-Oakton Branch in general accordance with the Letter of Intent from Chevy Chase Bank, FSB, dated February 27, 2006 for the purpose of placing, permanently founding and renovating the Oakton School House at Oakton Community Park per the approved Conceptual Development Plan

#### TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2006 to allow Chevy Chase Bank, FSB to meet contract deadlines associated with the purchase of the Oakton School House and its site for development.

#### BACKGROUND:

In May 2004, the Park Authority Board was informed about a private proposal to develop Oakton Community Park, then known as the Corbalis Property. Chevy Chase Bank, FSB, (CCB) was a contract purchaser of the Oakton School House and its site and sought to relocate the historic building to Oakton Community Park with the support of the community. Additionally, the West\*Group offered to coordinate volunteer services to assist in the placement and renovation of the School House while providing other park improvements. Finally, a group of interested citizens, now known as the Friends of Oakton School House, Incorporated, committed to perpetual maintenance, interpretation and management of the relocated building. The Oakton School House is located at the former Appalachian Outfitters site at the intersection of Hunter Mill Road and Chain Bridge Road in Oakton.

Since then, the Oakton Community Park Master Plan was approved by the Board in July 2005 supporting the relocation of the Oakton School House to the area identified for an 'interpretive architectural element' on the Conceptual Development Plan (Attachment 1). The Friends of Oakton School House incorporated as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation actively seeking the preservation of the Oakton School House. Friends of Oakton School House stated their intention in a draft Memorandum of Agreement to assume all routine, non-cyclical maintenance. The West\*Group has modified its pledge and at this time is not a partner in the current negotiations for park development.

Proposed development of the school house property by CCB requires review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This review by the Department of Historic Resources in Richmond involves evaluation of the historic structure, assessment of the effects of the proposed development and proposed mitigation of any impact. The proffer associated with SE-2004-PR026 requires CCB to comply with the results of their Section 106 review. While the review is not officially complete, it is our understanding that it is nearly so and that relocation and renovation of the school house has been determined to be an adequate mitigation measure for the CCB development site.

In order to complete the Section 106 review and satisfy the proffer associated with the Special Exception, Chevy Chase Bank has submitted a draft Letter of Intent to the Park Authority, (Attachment 2) dated February 27, 2006, offering to perform certain improvements to the Oakton Community Park at no cost to the Park Authority to satisfy their proffer and Section 106 requirements. They offer the following:

- Site design and engineering including DPWES site plan approval for the entire Oakton Community Park in accordance with the approved Conceptual Development Plan
- Demolition of the existing on-site single-family building
- Permanent relocation of the School House to the park
- Renovation of the Oakton School House building stabilizing the interior but not providing improvements for interior public access
- Installation of a gravel drive off of Hunter Mill Road including a turnaround, and 5 parking spaces (Attachment 3)
- Stormwater management improvements
- A letter of credit for the benefit of the Park Authority to guarantee the acceptable construction of improvements
- A \$100,000 contribution to the Friends of Oakton School House, Inc. over a 10-year period to provide for annual maintenance of the School House
- A \$100,000 capital contribution to the Park Authority for future improvements to the park

Successful negotiation of a Letter of Agreement with CCB will lead to the first phase of development for the Oakton Community Park. Staff requests approval to place the



Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

Oakton School House on Oakton Community Park and requests authorization to enter into a Letter of Agreement with Chevy Chase Bank, FSB to accomplish this.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal impacts are limited to staff salaries associated with managing the project. Chevy Chase Bank, FSB is responsible for all costs associated with the relocation, placement and renovation of the structure and associated improvements.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Conceptual Development Plan for Oakton Community Park,  
Approved July 27, 2005

Attachment 2: Letter of Intent from Chevy Chase Bank, dated February 27, 2006

Attachment 3: Preliminary Sketch of School Relocation at Oakton Community Park

STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director

Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer

Cindy Messinger, Director, Resource Management Division

Lynn S. Tadlock, Director, Planning and Development Division

Kirk Holley, Manager, Special Projects Branch

Michael Rierson, Manager, Resource Stewardship Branch

Angie Allen, Project Manager, Special Projects Branch

P:\Administration\Routed Documents\PAB Committee Items\FY 2006\March  
2006\Oakton School House\032206-ACT-Oakton School House.doc

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

Attachment 2: Comprehensive Agreement (Work in progress)

Attachment 3: Independent Cost Estimate (Work in progress)

Attachment 4: Updated Total Project Estimate (Work in progress)



## Conceptual Development Plan

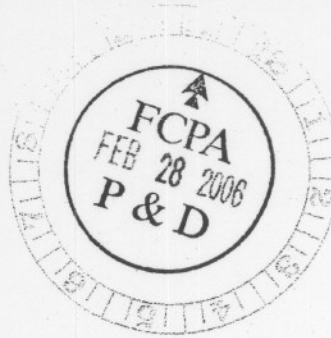


Prepared By:  
**Fairfax County Park Authority**  
**Oakton Community Park**  
**Approved July 27, 2005**





**CHEVY CHASE BANK**



Chevy Chase Bank  
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

February 27, 2006

Ms. Lynn Tadlock  
Division Director  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
12055 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035

Re: Oakton Community Park  
Relocation of Oakton Schoolhouse Structure ("Schoolhouse")

Dear Ms. Tadlock:

On behalf of Chevy Chase Bank ("CCB"), I am pleased to submit this Letter of Intent to perform certain improvements to the Oakton Community Park ("Park") at no cost to the Fairfax County Park Authority ("Authority") which would include the preservation of the existing Oakton Schoolhouse structure, currently located at 2938 Chain Bridge Road. As you know, there is significant community support to preserve this structure. Our intention is to provide the Authority with risk free and maintenance free services and improvements relative to the relocation of the Schoolhouse as well as a capital contribution, earmarked for future improvements to the Park as defined below.

CCB proposes to provide the following services and improvements:

- Site design and engineering for the entire 10+ acre park parcel in accordance with the Park Master Plan (see Attachment, page 29).
- Demolition of the existing single-family house on-site.
- Renovation of the Schoolhouse building (1,000 sf).
- Permanent relocation of the Schoolhouse to the Park.
- Installation of a gravel drive, turnaround, and 5 parking spaces (see Attachment).
- Storm water management on-site (quality control).
- A letter of credit for the benefit of the Authority for the above improvements.
- A \$100,000 contribution to the Friends of Oakton Schoolhouse, Inc. over a 10-year period to provide for annual maintenance of the Schoolhouse.
- A \$100,000 capital contribution to the Authority for future improvements to the Park.

In order to accomplish the above, CCB requests the following:

- Authority support for a waiver for road frontage improvements.
- Authority support for a waiver of storm water management (quantity control).
- Authority support for a dustless surface waiver.
- Permission from the Authority and a permit to temporarily store the Schoolhouse on-site while the site plan is being processed.
- Park proffer credits for the total capital expended by CCB.

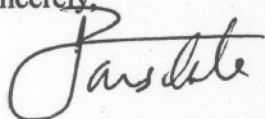
Lynn Tadlock  
February 27, 2006  
Page 2

- Tax benefits from the Authority's foundation for the donation of services and improvements.
- If required by the Section 106 process under the National Historic Preservation Act, written consent by the Authority to any Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Virginia and CCB allowing for the relocation of the Schoolhouse to the Park.

If these terms are acceptable to the Authority, please so indicate by signing in the space provided below and returning one copy to me. I very much look forward to working with the Authority on the Park project and would hope that we could enter into a written agreement shortly.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



J. Page Lansdale  
Senior Vice President

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

---

Fairfax County Park Authority

Date



## **ACTION - 2**

### Transfer of County-Owned Land to the Fairfax County Park Authority – Phase III

#### ISSUE:

Approval, by way of quitclaim deed, of the Phase III transfer of 49 parcels of County-owned land totaling 263.3 acres from the Board of Supervisors to the Fairfax County Park Authority for park purposes.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends that the Park Authority Board approve, by way of a quitclaim deed, the Phase III transfer of 49 parcels of County-owned land totaling 263.3 acres from the Board of Supervisors to the Fairfax County Park Authority for park purposes.

#### TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2006 in order to maintain the schedule .

#### BACKGROUND:

On April 14, 2004, the Park Authority Board approved the Phase III transfer of 102 parcels of County-owned land totaling 1,077.4085 acres from the Board of Supervisors to the Fairfax County Park Authority for park purposes. Since then, Park Authority staff has been working with County staff to complete a review of all County-owned properties to identify additional parcels that would be suitable as parkland. Seventy-nine (79) parcels with a total of approximately 800 acres have been identified as eligible for transfer to the Park Authority. These parcels include those that are 1) immediately adjacent to Park Authority property, 2) previously proffered to the County as open space or park land, 3) encumbered with environmental restrictions which prevent development for purposes other than parks or open space, or 4) not needed by other County agencies.

In preparation for the Park Authority's request to the Board of Supervisors for additional properties that will be included in the Phase III land transfer to the Park Authority, staff has prepared the attached list of properties, sorted by supervisory district, that appear to be suitable for park uses. The list includes 49 parcels consisting of 263.3 acres of land with a total tax assessed value of \$14,834,310. Though approximately half of these properties were already approved by the Park Authority Board in their previous action,



Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

staff has included the entire list of 50 properties which are scheduled to go forward in the near future. All properties included in the Phase III transfer are subject to review by various County agencies to identify existing uses and possible deed restrictions. In addition, the Board of Supervisors must conduct a public hearing on the transfer. Evaluations of each property by Park Authority staff will be conducted to assure the proper physical condition of each parcel prior to Park Authority acceptance. As a result of these proceedings, it is possible that some or all of these parcels will be conveyed to the Park Authority.

The list of parcels requested for this transfer is comprised of many types of vacant properties including stream valley parcels, parcels currently used for park purposes, County-owned land adjoining existing parkland, and other vacant land suitable for either preservation or park development. The acreage per district requested for transfer ranges from 0.2 acres in Mason District to just under 54 acres in the Springfield District.

The Board of Supervisors has previously approved three phases of land transfers to the Park Authority. The Phase I transfer was approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 10, 1999, and included 149 parcels consisting of approximately 1,220 acres with a tax assessed value of more than \$21,000,000. The Phase II transfer was approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 11, 2002, and included 61 parcels consisting of approximately 930 acres with a tax assessed value of more than \$54,000,000. The first group of properties under the Phase III transfer was approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 21, 2004, and included 12 parcels consisting of approximately 505 acres with a tax assessed value of more than \$4,502,190. The combination of these three transfers has netted the Park Authority 222 parcels of land with 2,655 acres (over 11% of current holdings) that is valued in excess of \$79,502,190. The Park Authority is scheduled to receive an additional 118 acres from the Board of Supervisors after a public hearing on the transfer, which will be held on February 27, 2006.

The Park Authority is requesting the land be transferred by way of quitclaim deeds. The Phase I transfer required three deeds to complete; the Phase II transfer required three deeds to complete; and so far one deed has been completed for the Phase III transfer. The provisions and conditions of the quitclaim deed that will be prepared by the County Attorney's Office for this transfer are expected to be similar to those of the previous transfers. The County Attorney's office will also review the property list to determine any legal issues which may prevent the transfer of any of the properties.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Park Authority will assume ownership and maintenance responsibilities for an estimated \$14,834,310 worth of additional parkland.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

ENCLOSED DOCUMENT:

Attachment 1: Phase III Transfer of Parcels from Board of Supervisors to Park  
Authority 2006

STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director

Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer

Lynn S. Tadlock, Director, Planning and Development Division

Kay H. Rutledge, Manager, Land Acquisition and Management Branch

Gail A. Croke, Senior Right of Way Agent, Land Acquisition and Management Branch

Michael P. Lambert, Right of Way Agent, Land Acquisition and Management Branch

<b>PHASE III TRANSFER OF PARCELS FROM BOS TO PARK AUTHORITY</b>  <b>2006</b>			
<b>SUPERVISORY DISTRICT</b>	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PARCELS</b>	<b>2005 ASSESSED VALUE</b>
<b>COUNTYWIDE</b>			
BRADDOCK	20.1827	3	\$1,000,000
DRANESVILLE	27.3454	8	\$750,250
HUNTER MILL	25.2482	3	\$2,646,600
LEE	33.8421	9	\$2,487,750
MASON	0.1607	1	\$ 1,000
MT. VERNON	50.0882	7	\$1,912,830
PROVIDENCE	5.4817	5	\$1,155,000
SPRINGFIELD	53.8943	9	\$4,006,580
SULLY	47.0914	4	\$874,300
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>263.3347</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>\$14,834,310.00</b>

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

### **ACTION - 3**

Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program Request – Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District – Little Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park (Dranesville District)

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program request from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District in the amount of \$10,000 for stream bank stabilization project in Little Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

### **ACTION - 4**

Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program Request – Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Connection – Richard W. Jones Park (Sully District)

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grants Program request from the Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Connection in the amount of \$3,049 for the installation of swings adjacent to the existing playground at Richard W. Jones Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

### **ACTION - 5**

Scope Approval – South Run RECenter Fitness Room Addition and Parking Lot (Springfield District)

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the project scope to design, permit and construct a fitness room addition and parking lot at the South Run RECenter, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

## **ACTION - 6**

Scope Approval – Parking Lot Renovations at Alabama Drive Park and Pinecrest Golf Course (Dranesville and Mason Districts)

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the project scope to renovate the parking lots at Alabama Drive Park and Pinecrest Golf Course, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

## **ACTION - 7**

Approval – Extension of Open End Contracts for Civil Engineering and Related Services

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of a one year extension to the open end contracts with the firms of Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd., Burgess & Niple Inc., Greenhorne & O'Mara Inc., and Patton, Harris, Rust & Associates P. C. for civil engineering and related services needed to accomplish the projects in 2004 Park Bond Program. Each firm will be extended for a term of one (1) year and the contract limits will be reset to the not to exceed amount of \$400,000, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

## **ACTION - 8**

Authorization to Hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed John C. and Margaret K. White Horticultural Park Master Plan (Mason District)

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends authorization to hold a public hearing to present the proposed John C. and Margaret K. White Horticultural Park Draft Master Plan, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

**ACTION - 9**

Authorization to Hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed Sully Woodlands Regional Master Plan (Sully District)

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends authorization to hold a public hearing to present the proposed Sully Woodlands Regional Master Plan, as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

**ACTION - 10**

Approval – Proposed 2006 Fee Adjustments to the Park Authority's Published Fee Schedule

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends that the Park Authority Board approve the proposed fee adjustments to the published fee schedule as advertised, as presented to and reviewed by the Park Services / Resource Management Joint Committees on March 8, 2006. In addition, in response to the business activity license fee discussion, it is recommended that staff continue to implement the fee in accordance with past practice and come back to the Board with guidelines to address any variations in its application.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

**ACTION -**

Approval – Proposed 2006 Fee Adjustments to the Park Authority's Published Fee Schedule

ISSUE:

Approval of recommended fee adjustments to the published fee schedule for 2006.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends that the Park Authority Board approve the proposed fee adjustments to the published fee schedule as advertised.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2006 in order to have the fee changes take effect April 1, 2006.

BACKGROUND:

Park Authority staff reviews fees annually to ensure that the agency remains on target to meet financial goals established by the Park Authority Board. As a result of the staff review done during the fall of 2005, a number of fees were proposed for modification or addition to the published fee schedule. The Board authorized public notification of the proposed fee adjustments and a date for a public comment meeting at the January 25, 2006 Board meeting.

Public notification of the fee proposal and public comment meeting included: distribution of press releases to news organizations, advertisement and distribution of the fee proposal at park sites and on the Park Authority's web site. Public comments were solicited in writing via letter, fax and e-mail between January 30, 2006 and February 28, 2006. A public comment meeting was held at the Herrity Building on February 15, 2006.

Comments received during the public comment period are included in Attachment 2. A comment summary is as follows.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

Six speakers attended the public comment meeting. Three spoke in opposition to applying the business activities license fee to their group, two generally opposed RECenter fee adjustments, and one advocated adopting a system of price discounts based on income need rather than age or other criteria. (Staff will address issues related to the business activity license fee in committee on March 8, 2006.)

Over the course of the 30-day comment period, written comments were received from 11 individuals. Topics included:

- 2-person RECenter passes – two commenters said these passes should be available to any two interested parties, not just two individuals from the same household.
- Golf – two people expressed an interest in free or reduced fee golf as a benefit for Fairfax County Public School bus drivers.
- Needs-based fee discounts – one wrote to advocate a transition from fee discounts based on age criteria to discounts based on income.
- RECenter fee increases – two opposed RECenter fee increases in general.
- RECenter funding – one comment suggested that RECenter operations should not be self-sustaining, but should be tax supported.
- Senior discounts – one comment suggested that senior fee discounts should be “optional” so that seniors with higher incomes would pay full prices.
- South Run Field House – one comment was received that opposed proposed adjustments to the field house rental fees at South Run.

**There are no changes to the fee proposal recommended as a result of the public comment meeting.** Adoption of the fee proposal in its entirety is recommended. Collectively, the proposed adjustments play an important role in the Fairfax County Park Authority's ability to meet the Revenue Fund (Fund 170) financial goals established by the Board.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of the fee proposal recommendation is projected to generate approximately \$256,800 in additional revenue in FY 2006 and \$984,023 in FY 2007 for the Park Revenue Fund (Fund 170).

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Proposed Fee Adjustments FY 2006

Attachment 2: Public Comments on Proposed Fee Adjustments for FY 2006



Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director

Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer

Cindy Messinger, Director, Resource Management Division

Charles Bittenbring, Director, Park Services Division

Dan Sutherland, Manager, Grounds Management Branch, Park Operations Division

Cindy Walsh, Operations Manager, Resource Management Division

Peter Furey, Manager, Golf Enterprises/Lakefront Parks, Park Services Division

Steve Lewis, Manager, Business Office, Park Services Division

Barbara Nugent, Manager, Leisure and Wellness Branch, Park Services Division

Nick Duray, Manager, Marketing Research and Planning, Park Services Division

# **Proposed Fee Adjustments**

**FY 2006**



**Fairfax County Park Authority**

# Contents

Organization of the FY 2006 Fee Proposal.....	3
Current Situation – System-wide Considerations .....	3
Proposed Fee Adjustments	
Business Activity License Fee.....	5
Picnic Shelters/Areas and Amphitheater Rental.....	6
Synthetic Turf Athletic Field Rental – Ellanor C. Lawrence Park .....	8
RECenters .....	9
Golf .....	13
Lakefront Parks.....	17
Ellmore Farm Center .....	20
Riverbend Park .....	21

## **Organization of the FY 2006 Fee Proposal**

Organization of the FY 2006 Fee Proposal follows the format first introduced in 2004. A section entitled 'Current Situation – System-wide Considerations' describes the important factors in the Park Authority's overall operational environment that had an effect on the composition of this year's fee adjustment proposal. This overview is followed by separate sections for each of the various business areas for which fee adjustments are being proposed. Each of these sections first outlines important situational factors specific to that business area that had an effect on the development of the fee adjustment proposal. This is then followed by a summary of the fee adjustments proposed for that business area in FY 2006.

### **Current Situation – System-wide Considerations**

- Guidelines and projections from the Comprehensive Fund Management Plan typically form an important framework for proposed fee adjustments. Important considerations from this plan are as follows:
  1. Sufficient revenue must be produced annually to meet long-term debt service obligations for park facility revenue bonds, which are repaid with revenues from user fees. The current obligation includes annual debt service payments of slightly more than \$ 1 million annually plus a requirement that the Revenue Fund maintain a level of net revenue before debt service sufficient to meet 125% of annual debt service payments.
  2. The Park Revenue Fund will likely be challenged to meet the Board's desired \$825,000 set aside target for the Park Capital Improvement Fund due to the impact of the Cub Run and Laurel Hill start-ups prior to revenues reaching stabilized levels at those two facilities.
  3. Revenue growth needed to sustain the Park Revenue Fund is assumed to come from multiple sources, including new facility introductions, program growth and fee increases. And as a matter of principle, comparatively small and regular fee increases are preferred over less frequent, but larger increases.
- Inflation spiked in 2005 after a number of years of low annual growth. Growth in the Washington-Baltimore consumer price index for 2005 is currently projected at 4.1% for the year, compared with 2.8% for last year. In September, the last month for which data were available, the rate of CPI growth rose 4.9%. Annual growth in the CPI had hovered between 2.4% and 2.8% annually for the previous four years (2001-2004). The combined CPI growth rate for 2004 and 2005 was 6.9%. First quarter utility costs for revenue fund facilities (excluding Cub Run and Laurel Hill) were up 13% from last year. Much of this impact was in natural gas expenditures, which increased 99%.

- General market conditions for the Park Revenue Fund's main sources of use are mixed, but cautiously optimistic. Overall RECenter demand remains strong – up nearly 6% from FY 2004 – FY 2005. While the addition of a new facility at Cub Run contributed to the growth in demand, attendance also increased significantly at the established RECenters. National indicators for fitness activity, a key source of RECenter demand, also remain positive.

Outdoor activity remains largely dependent on weather conditions. Water Mine revenues were up 13% during the 2005 season, due to unusually hot and dry weather during the summer months. The golf industry outlook shows a leveling off of rounds played at the national level, and locally, about 8% less rounds were played at Park Authority courses in 2005 compared to the previous year because of poor weather in the first and third quarters (spring and fall). Golf business is strongest in the mid to upper end of the market. Play remains strong at Twin Lakes where prime time weekend and holiday tee times at both courses are booked well in advance of play, and initial response to Laurel Hill has been enthusiastic.

- Fee increases in most major admission areas were delayed last year to reduce the impact of the first phase of the senior discount adjustment approved in the FY 2005 fee process. If implemented, subsequent phases of the adopted senior discount program would go into effect in FY 2007 and FY 2009, and it is assumed that across-the-board fee adjustments in primary admissions areas would not be proposed in those two years for the same reason. That leaves the current year and FY 2008 as the windows for addressing general fee adjustments in major RECenter and golf admissions categories.

## **Business Activity License Fee**

### **Current Situation**

- The current wording of the Business Activity License Fee in the fee schedule has led to some confusion amongst the public as to whom the fee applies and in some cases, how it is applied.

### **Proposed Fee Adjustments**

The following wording change is proposed where the Business Activity License fee appears in the fee schedule to clarify its applicability and the conditions under which it will be adjusted.

1. Current Wording in Fee Schedule:
  - Greater of \$50 or 15% of Gross Sales
2. Proposed Wording for Fee Schedule:

No person shall sell or make an offer to sell goods or services or conduct business activities within a park without the express written permission of the Park Authority. If approved, such permission is granted through issuance of a Business Activity License, the fee for which is the greater of \$50 or 15% of Gross Revenue. Gross revenue includes sales of any food and beverages, products or services, registration fees, participation fees, donations, and ticket sales generated by an activity, clinic, workshop, program or any other event, including fundraising activities to support charitable services. The Gross Revenue may be adjusted by first deducting any Park Authority facility rental fees paid in conjunction with the activity/event.

## Picnic Shelters/Areas and Amphitheater Rental

### Current Situation

- Use and demand is evaluated at the conclusion of each picnic season to identify potential future additions or deletions to the inventory of reservable picnic areas. In FY 2005, demand for reservable picnic areas and shelters continued to grow with many more requests than could be accommodated. There were 1,288 rentals in FY 2005. Smaller areas in parks with limited amenities were relatively underutilized. Demand was greatest for large reservable areas (capacity 100 or more) with a broader array of amenities.
- Analysis of usage and demand at the most desired facilities indicated that higher fees would not negatively impact usage. The recommended fee increases would add revenue, yet still be competitive with other picnic rental areas.
- The amphitheater rental fee structure currently has different rates for county and non-county residents. This structure is different than the prime, non-prime pricing approach used for picnic shelters/areas. It is not unusual for amphitheater renters to also request rental of a shelter or picnic area, and the difference in fee structure between the two facility types has caused customer confusion. Staff recommends eliminating this confusion by altering the amphitheater fee structure to reflect the prime and non-prime fee distinction used for picnic shelters/areas.
- Staff recommends adding two new areas to the existing inventory: picnic areas at Frying Pan Park and Martin Luther King Park.
- A discount for "long term" rental picnic groups is proposed as an addition to the fee schedule. Several renters have been booking the same location for multiple weeks throughout the season.

### Proposed Picnic Shelters/Areas and Amphitheater Rental Fee Adjustments

Based on the conditions described above, proposed picnic shelters/areas and amphitheater rental fee adjustments for FY 2006 are as follows.

1. Picnic shelters/areas. Proposed adjustments to existing picnic shelter/area fees and the addition of two new picnic areas are based on the demand/supply analysis conducted at the end of the 2005 season.

	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	Prime	Non-Prime	Prime	Non-Prime
Burke Lake Shelters A, B, & C	\$300	\$176	\$325	\$220
Lake Accotink McLaren Sargent Shelter	\$325	\$200	\$325	\$220
Lake Accotink Large Lakeside Shelter	\$325	\$200	\$325	\$220
Lake Accotink Small Shelter	\$85	\$66	\$100	\$78
Lake Accotink Picnic Areas 1&2	\$85	\$66	\$85	\$70

	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	<u>Prime</u>	<u>Non-Prime</u>	<u>Prime</u>	<u>Non-Prime</u>
Lee District Shelter	\$85	\$66	\$85	\$70
Nottoway Picnic Area	\$100	\$78	\$125	\$100
Roundtree Park Picnic Area	\$85	\$66	\$85	\$70
Frying Pan Park Picnic Area	New Fee		\$70	\$55
Martin Luther King Park Picnic Area	New Fee		\$70	\$55

2. Amphitheater rental. The following adjustments to the amphitheater rental fee structure are proposed to achieve consistency with the picnic shelters/areas fee structure. Note that the cost of a four-hour rental during non-prime time under the proposed fee is equivalent to the current county rate. Since most county resident rentals occur in non-prime times, the proposed fee will not represent a price increase for most county resident renters.

	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	<u>County</u>	<u>Non-County</u>	<u>Prime</u>	<u>Non-Prime</u>
Burke Lake, Ellanor C. Lawrence, Lake Fairfax:				
Four hour rental	\$40	\$80	----	----
Additional hour	\$10	\$20	----	----
Hourly rate (four hour minimum required)	----	----	\$15	\$10
Lee District, Mason District:				
Four hour rental	\$80	\$160	----	----
Additional hour	\$10	\$ 20	----	----
Hourly rate (four hour minimum required)	----	-----	\$ 25	\$20

3. Multiple use discount for picnic shelters/areas and amphitheater rental. A discount of 10% of the picnic rental fee will be applied to “long term” picnic rental groups who submit a request for and rent a picnic area, shelter, amphitheater or gazebo for a minimum of five (5) days in the calendar year. A “multiple use” rental will be defined as any individual or group that submits a picnic rental application requesting a minimum of five (5) rental dates. Groups who do not request a minimum of five rental dates on the same request will not be granted long term status, and thus will not be eligible for receiving the 10% discount.



## Synthetic Turf Athletic Field Rental – Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

### Current Situation

- In 2004, the first Park Authority synthetic turf athletic field was constructed at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. The rental fee structure shown below was adopted during the FY 2005 fee process and went into effect November 21, 2005.

	<u>Prime Time</u>	<u>Non-Prime Time</u>
<u>Without Lights</u>		
1 hour rental	\$ 60	\$ 50
90 minute rental	\$ 80	\$ 70
<u>With Lights</u>		
1 hour rental	\$ 100	\$ 75
90 minute rental	\$ 140	\$ 120

- It was anticipated that 60 and 90 minute rental requests would be most common when the rental fee structure was established. In practice, multi-hour requests have been more common than anticipated. There has been some confusion between customers and staff regarding the appropriate fee for those desiring rentals that are longer than 90 minutes.
- Increased utility costs have prompted the need to shift to a uniform rate for the use of lights at all times.

### Proposed Fee Adjustments

- Proposed changes to the synthetic turf athletic field rental fee structure include: elimination of the 90 minute rental and non-prime time fee categories and adjustment of the one hour rental rates as shown below.

	<u>Current Fee</u>		<u>Proposed Fee</u>
	<u>Prime</u>	<u>Non Prime</u>	
One hour rental with lights	\$100	\$ 75	\$ 115
One hour rental without lights	\$ 60	\$ 50	\$ 90
90 minute rental with lights	\$140	\$120	Eliminate
90 minute rental without lights	\$ 80	\$ 70	Eliminate

## RECenters

### Current Situation

- RECenters are heavily used and remain in high demand. Attendance at established facilities (excluding Cub Run) grew 4.9% between FY 2005 and 2004, pass sales increased 3.2% and total revenue and pass revenue both increased by more than 6%.
- RECenter general admission and pass fees were last adjusted in 2004. Little opportunity likely exists to adjust RECenter admission fees next year given the plan to phase in long-term fee adjustments approved in FY 2005.
- The Washington-Baltimore consumer price index has increased 6.9% since the last RECenter admission adjustments were implemented in 2004. Recognizing that improved profitability comes from multiple sources, including program growth and cost control, the proposed RECenter admission fee adjustment is targeted at 5%.
- Increased inflation has been reflected most readily in RECenter utility costs. Compared to last year, first quarter utility expenses (for all facilities except Cub Run) increased 14% with natural gas expenditures up 104%.
- A comparative analysis of admission fees with those of other local public providers showed that RECenter list prices are at the top of the market. While this would imply little opportunity to raise rates, it must be recognized that the RECenters rely on price discounting to a greater degree than other operators, which lowers the effective rate users pay. 70% of FY 2005 leisure fitness pass revenue was derived during sale periods where discounts ranged up to 17%. To illustrate the savings, a 12-month in-county adult pass during last year's Healthy Heart sale sold for \$455.25, compared with a regular list price of \$548.50.
- Several notable service improvements were implemented in 2005 that noticeably improve RECenter value to the customer. These include the opening of Cub Run RECenter and full implementation of the Exercise Your Options (XYO) program. Cub Run offers expanded fitness facilities and the Park Authority's first indoor leisure pool. XYO, the benefit that allows passholders to also participate in selected fitness classes, is now offered to all RECenters except George Washington. Facility improvements have also been completed this fall at South Run RECenter and are scheduled for spring completion at George Washington RECenter.
- Improved facilities at South Run field house have resulted in dramatic growth in use of the facility. The number of primary renters grew from three to nine and the number of rental hours from 646 to 1,300 between FY 2004 and FY 2005. Growth in organized field sports and year-round sports training in the region will fuel continued demand for indoor sports fields.

## Proposed RECenter Fee Adjustments

Based on the conditions described above, proposed RECenter fee adjustments for FY 2006 are as follows.

1. General admission and pass fees. An across-the-board 5% increase is proposed for all general admission and pass fee categories. As recommended in the previous two approved admission fee increases, smaller more regular fee increases, such as the one proposed, should be implemented to achieve cost recovery targets.

	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>
<u>Daily</u>				
Adult	\$ 8.25	\$ 6.20	\$8.70	\$6.50
Youth/Student	\$ 8.25	\$ 4.55	\$8.70	\$4.75
Senior (Mon-Fri)	\$ 8.25	\$ 4.55	\$8.70	\$4.75
Senior (Sat/Sun/Hol)	\$ 8.25	\$ 6.20	\$8.70	\$6.50
Family	\$ 23.70	\$ 13.40	\$25.00	\$14.00
<u>Discount Fast Pass</u>				
Adult	\$ 188.50	\$ 131.75	\$198.00	\$138.50
Youth/Student	\$ 188.50	\$ 103.65	\$198.00	\$109.00
Senior	\$ 188.50	\$ 103.65	\$198.00	\$109.00
<u>Monthly</u>				
Single Adult	\$ 87.55	\$ 61.30	\$92.00	\$64.50
2 Person Adult	\$ 137.00	\$ 95.80	\$144.00	\$101.00
Dependent	\$ 21.65	\$ 15.15	\$23.00	\$16.00
Youth	\$ 87.55	\$ 48.15	\$92.00	\$51.00
Senior	\$ 87.55	\$ 48.15	\$92.00	\$51.00
2 Person Senior	\$ 137.00	\$ 75.35	\$144.00	\$79.00
Family	\$ 162.75	\$ 113.55	\$171.00	\$119.00
<u>6 Months</u>				
Single Adult	\$ 435.70	\$ 304.75	\$458.00	\$320.00
2 Person Adult	\$ 684.95	\$ 478.85	\$719.00	\$503.00
Dependent	\$ 108.15	\$ 75.70	\$114.00	\$79.50
Youth	\$ 435.70	\$ 239.65	\$458.00	\$252.00
Senior	\$ 435.70	\$ 239.65	\$458.00	\$252.00
2 Person Senior	\$ 684.95	\$ 376.70	\$719.00	\$395.00
Family	\$ 811.64	\$ 567.80	\$852.00	\$596.00
<u>12 Months</u>				
Single Adult	\$ 783.85	\$ 548.50	\$823.00	\$576.00
2 Person Adult	\$ 1,231.90	\$ 861.90	\$1,294.00	\$905.00
Dependent	\$ 194.70	\$ 136.30	\$205.00	\$143.00
Youth	\$ 783.85	\$ 431.10	\$823.00	\$453.00
Senior	\$ 783.85	\$ 431.10	\$823.00	\$453.00
2 Person Senior	\$ 1,231.90	\$ 677.55	\$1,294.00	\$712.00
Family	\$ 1,460.55	\$ 1,022.00	\$1,534.00	\$1,073.00

2. RECenter room rental fees. Revenue recovery on room rentals is a challenge. Citizen demand for room rentals is strong, but revenue recovery on private room rentals is minimal when compared with competing uses for classes and programs. A small increase in room rental fees will offset some of the disparity in cost recovery between these uses and thereby help to preserve RECenter ability to deliver this high-demand public service. These rates were last adjusted in 2000. A \$10.00 per hour increase is proposed for rooms up to 2,000 square feet in size. A \$15.00 per hour increase is proposed for rooms over 2,000 square feet.

RECenter Room Rental (Per Hour)

	CURRENT FEES	PROPOSED FEES
<u>Room Size</u>		
300-600 sq ft	\$30	\$40
601-1000 sq ft	\$35	\$45
1001-1500 sq ft	\$45	\$55
1501-2000 sq ft	\$60	\$70
2001+ sq ft	\$75	\$90

3. Mt. Vernon Ice Rink Rental. Staff recommends a 10% increase in the hourly ice rental rate last adjusted in 2004. Comparative analysis of rinks in northern Virginia and suburban Maryland shows that Mt. Vernon's hourly ice rental fee is currently 18% lower than average. The proposed change still leaves Mt. Vernon's rate significantly below the market average. Further adjustment in the ice rink rental rates will be considered during next year's fee review process, providing some time for rental groups to adjust to this year's proposed increase.

Mt. Vernon – Ice Rink Rental Per Hour

	CURRENT FEES	PROPOSED FEES
Base Rate	\$ 220	\$ 242
Discount Rate*	\$ 200	\$ 220

\*Available with proof of County residency.

4. South Run Field House Rental. Staff recommends an adjustment to the full field house rental rates based on improved facility quality and increased demand, elimination of the non-profit discount to be more consistent with the rest of the fee schedule and elimination of the non-prime fee category due to lack of demand during those times.

South Run RECenter – Field House Rental, Per Hour

	CURRENT FEES	PROPOSED FEES
Full Field House, Base Rate*	\$ 80	\$ 120
Full Field House, Non-Profit Groups*	\$ 64	Eliminate
½ Field House	\$ 52	\$ 78
Non-Prime, Full Field House:		
Base Rate	\$ 60	Eliminate
Non-Profit Groups	\$ 48	Eliminate
Non-Prime, Half Field House:		
Base Rate	\$ 40	Eliminate
Non-Profit Groups	\$ 32	Eliminate

\*Fees currently designated as prime time.

5. RECenter Racquetball Court Rental Fee – 10 Hour Pass. Staff recommends the following adjustment to racquetball court rental fees.

RECenter Court Rental Fees

	CURRENT FEES	PROPOSED FEES
10 Hour Pass	\$ 20	\$ 25

# Golf

## Current Situation

- The current industry outlook shows a leveling off of rounds played at the national level. Rounds play has been erratic, fluctuating up and down based on weather conditions. In the mid-Atlantic region rounds played are currently down 1% for the calendar year over 2004. Over the last few months, however, the outlook has been more optimistic. Total rounds played in the mid-Atlantic were up 9% in July, 6% in August and September rounds are forecast to report higher than September 2004.
- Park Authority play mirrors the Mid-Atlantic picture with variable weather conditions greatly influencing total rounds played. Poor weather in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of FY 2005 led to an 8% decrease in rounds played for the year. In addition to the influence of weather, there exist other pressures in the local market including additional courses coming on line and increased discounting strategies. It is too early to determine what effect the opening of Laurel Hill Golf Club will have on play on our existing courses.
- Data from course surveys in the local market indicates that daily fee operators are anticipating raising fees slightly after many resisted increases over the past year. Some courses indicated that they will hold fees at the current rate. Some courses that aggressively discounted their fees during non-prime times are looking to scale this practice back after not realizing additional rounds or increased revenues.
- Limited membership options are going through a bit of a transition; as some daily fee providers are contemplating scaling back some of the benefits, such as the inclusion of carts.
- In response to general market conditions, only selected adjustments to greens fees are recommended in this year's fee proposal. Increases in prime time fees are necessary to cover rising costs and are seen as viable during these busier time periods. Increases to selected non prime time fees are also being recommended. These fee adjustments, along with improved weather, and continued efforts to build non-prime play through promotions and discounting should help golf to achieve its current revenue goals.
- During the first quarter of FY 2006, continued economic uncertainties and a flat market have had an impact on golf demand and associated revenues. The delayed opening of the Laurel Hill Golf Club will also have a negative impact on our revenue projections.
- The Financial Management Plan forecasts a cost recovery amount of 125% in FY 2006 for the golf section. This performance would provide the necessary funding to finance some of the needed improvements within the agency. It is anticipated that, given favorable weather and attendance at the golf courses, these fee adjustments will help to achieve the cost recovery goal.

- Demand is highest at Twin Lakes where Prime Time Weekend and Holiday tee times for both golf courses are booked well in advance of play. In addition, the initial demand and golfer response at Laurel Hill Golf club has been very positive. An important component of the Financial Management Plan growth strategy was the addition of the Laurel Hill Golf Club in calendar 2005. A 2002 market analysis conducted by Economic Research Associates (ERA) indicated an underserved market niche between the existing low-end and moderate public golf offerings and the high-end daily fee courses. To capitalize on the existing opportunity, Laurel Hill was planned to provide a higher level of clubhouse amenities, as well as an upgraded and consistent on-course experience than is available at other Park Authority courses. This year's fee proposal maintains the recommended price point, consistent with the ERA recommendation, at the bottom of the market's high-end daily fee facilities and above the price point occupied by Twin Lakes to account for the step-up in quality that will be afforded at Laurel Hill.
- Memberships are a critical part of high end golf course operations, and provide an effective, customer friendly means to build revenue and loyalty. Initial response to the Laurel Hill membership drive has been extremely positive. It is anticipated that our goal for of 60 members will be attained within the first 2 months. Recognizing this initial success it is important to allow for a pricing strategy that is consistent with the industry while still allowing for the required public and Board review. Staff is recommending authorization for a membership increase of up to 25% (\$950). This is necessary since Laurel Hill Golf Club memberships are annual memberships and the current membership fees will be in place until the end of 2006.

### **Proposed Golf Fee Adjustments**

Based on the conditions described above, proposed golf fee adjustments for F Y 2006 are as follows.

1. Prime Time Greens Fees. Staff is recommending an increase at all courses that will continue to maintain their market positioning.

	Prime Time Greens Fees			
	9 Holes		18-Holes	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Burke Lake	\$16	Unchanged	\$22	\$23
Jefferson	\$18	\$19	\$30	Unchanged
Oak Marr	\$16	\$17	\$22	\$23
Pinecrest	\$18	\$19	\$30	Unchanged
Greendale	\$21	Unchanged	\$32	\$33
Twin Lakes – Oaks & Lakes	\$27	Unchanged	\$41	\$45

2. Non-Prime Time Greens Fees. Staff is recommending the following selected changes to non-prime time greens fees.

Non-Prime Time Greens Fees				
	9 Holes		18-Holes	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Burke Lake	\$13	\$14	\$19	\$20
Jefferson	\$15	\$16	\$25	Unchanged
Oak Marr	\$13	\$14	\$19	\$20
Pinecrest	\$15	\$16	\$25	Unchanged
Greendale	\$17	Unchanged	\$26	\$27
Twin Lakes – Oaks and Lakes	\$21	Unchanged	\$32	\$35

3. Laurel Hill Golf Club. The following fine tuning of the Laurel Hill Golf Club fee schedule is recommended based on experience gained from initial operation. Adjustment in prime season twilight times will maintain a consistent policy with similar operations. Creation of an after 4 p.m. 9 hole rate during prime season will establish a family friendly policy, address demand being expressed at the site and provide a means for stimulating play later in the day. Eliminating the \$10 greens fee discount for walkers will protect pace-of-play standards, a critical competitive factor in Laurel Hill's segment of the golf market. Impact on golfers will be minimal – between 5 -10% are currently walking. However, even a minimal number of walkers can significantly slow pace-of-play, given the course layout and challenging terrain. Walking will still be allowed, although there will be no financial incentive for doing so, which will encourage riding and maintain Laurel Hill's stated commitment to favorable pace-of-play.

Laurel Hill Golf Club		
	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Twilight hours changes:		
Prime Season (Weekdays, Weekends/Holidays)	1:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
18 Hole Greens Fee Walking Discount	\$10	Eliminate
9 Hole Greens Fee, Prime Season, after 4:00 p.m.		
Weekdays	-----	\$ 34
Weekends/Holidays	-----	\$ 44

4. Laurel Hill Golf Club Membership Fees. Golf memberships are sold annually for a calendar year. Membership rates are typically set in the late fall for implementation in January, which makes this fee category out-of-cycle with the Park Authority's fee regular fee approval process. Staff is recommending authorization for a calendar 2007 membership increase of up to 25% (\$950) with staff notifying the Board of the actual fee increase to be implemented in October 2006. Membership fees currently in effect will be in place until the end of 2006. Any rate increase would go into effect in January 2007.



5. Power Carts. Staff is recommending a small increase to the 18-hole and 2<sup>nd</sup>-9 rate at Greendale and Twin Lakes. This increase will help to offset the rising fuel and electricity costs associated with these large cart fleets.

	Power Cart Rentals	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
<u>Greendale:</u>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 Holes	\$8	\$9
18 Holes	\$24	\$25
<u>Twin Lakes:</u>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 Holes	\$9	\$10
18 Holes	\$27	\$28

6. Driving Range buckets. Staff is recommending increases to large, jumbo and super buckets, but not small bucket purchases. This strategy will allow us to remain competitive, while improving our ability to cover rising costs.

	Driving Range Fees	
	Burke Lake Golf Center & Oak Marr Golf Complex	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Small Bucket	\$ 6	Unchanged
Large Bucket	\$ 9	\$ 10
Jumbo Bucket	\$12	\$13
Super Bucket	\$15	\$16
	Twin Lakes & Laurel Hill	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Small Bucket	\$ 6	Unchanged
Large Bucket	\$ 9	\$ 10

7. Pull Cart rentals. The following fee increase is proposed for pull carts at all facilities:

	Pull Cart Rentals	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.50

## **Lakefront Parks**

### **Current Situation**

- Lake Fairfax Park and Campground continues to be a popular destination for family camping and people visiting the area. The campground operations at both Lake Fairfax and Burke Lake Park performed extremely well over FY 2005 and into the first quarter of 2006. Camping revenues at Burke Lake increased 34% in FY 2005 and camping revenues at Lake Fairfax Park increased 21%. These local campgrounds continued to experience strong visitation greatly benefiting from their close proximity to the nation's capital.
- The current situation in the Park Revenue Fund necessitates that the lakefront park sites strengthen their cost recovery effort. This year's fee recommendations will continue to address those areas that have the potential to improve the profitability of these sites.
- A market survey of area campgrounds identified only a few areas where camping fees have the potential for increases. Significant increases were approved two years ago and as a result camping revenues increased in FY 2005 by 24%. Park Authority campground facilities continue to have a very good reputation, and given their close proximity to the nation's capital, the proposed fee increase is warranted.
- Lake Fairfax Park's marina is currently undergoing an extensive renovation that will vastly increase customer's enjoyment and visitation to this area. To a lesser degree, dredging activities at Lake Accotink Park will begin to restore the vitality of the marina operation at that park. Recommended fee increases in marina operations will be warranted as our customers begin to see these improvements.
- Demand remains steady at the Water Mine with revenues growing more than 3% annually over the last several years. Water Mine admission fees were static for the first six years of operation. Subsequent fee adjustments were approved in 2002 and 2004 to align this operation with the agency's policy of small, more regular fee increases where market conditions permit. A scheduled fee adjustment in 2006 would fit the cycle established in 2002. Analysis of comparables indicates that a minor adjustment in the primary daily fee admission categories is supportable.

## Proposed Lakefront Fee Adjustments

Based on the conditions described above, proposed lakefront fee adjustments for FY 2006 are as follows:

1. Campsite rental – Burke Lake. Staff recommends increasing campsite rental fees at Burke Lake as shown below.

Campsite Rental – Burke Lake		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Per night, per site	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00

2. Camping-Wilderness. Staff recommends increasing wilderness camping fees at both Burke Lake and Lake Fairfax as shown below.

Wilderness Camping – Burke Lake, Lake Fairfax		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Per person, per night	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00

3. Entrance Fees – Burke Lake. Staff recommends increasing the passenger vehicle/motorcycle entrance fee at Burke Lake Park as shown below and merging this fee with the van fee to simplify the fee schedule. This fee applies only to non-Fairfax County residents and only during weekends and holidays, mid April-mid September.

Entrance Fee – Burke Lake		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Passenger vehicles, motorcycles & vans*	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00

\*Note: the current van fee is already \$8.00 and would remain unchanged.

4. Excursion Boat Rides. Staff recommends increases in excursion boat fees at Lake Accotink Park and Lake Fairfax Park as shown below.

Excursion Boat Rides – Lake Fairfax, Lake Accotink		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Per Person	\$ 1.00	----
Child*	----	\$ 1.50
Adult	----	\$ 2.00

\*12 years of age or younger.

5. Pedal Boat Rentals. Staff recommends pedal boat rental fees at Lake Accotink Park and Lake Fairfax Park as shown below.

Pedal Boat Rentals – Lake Fairfax, Lake Accotink		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Half hour rental	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00
Hourly rental	\$ 8.00	\$10.00

6. Rowboat Rentals. Staff recommends rowboat rental fee increases at Lake Accotink and Burke Lake Park as shown below.

Row Boat Rentals – Burke Lake		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Half day rental	\$ 7.50	\$ 9.50*
Full day rental	\$13.00	\$15.00*

\*Fee includes personal floatation device.

Row Boat Rentals – Lake Accotink		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Hourly rental	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00
Half day rental	\$ 7.00	\$ 9.50
Full day rental	\$12.00	\$15.00

7. Miniature Golf. Staff recommends an increase in miniature golf fees at Lake Accotink Park as shown below.

Miniature Golf – Lake Accotink		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Adults	\$ 3.50	\$ 4.00
Juniors/Seniors	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.00
Second 9-holes	\$ 1.50	\$ 2.00

8. Water Mine – Daily Admission and Group Rate. Staff recommends an increase in the daily admission fee categories and group rate at the Water Mine as shown below.

Water Mine – Daily Admission and Group Rate		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
<u>Daily Admission</u>		
Over 48" Tall	\$ 12	\$ 13
Under 48" Tall	\$ 10	\$ 11
Chaperone Fee	\$ 6	\$ 7
After 5 p.m.	\$ 7	\$ 8
Group Rate-Per Individual	\$ 8	\$ 9

## Ellmore Farm Center

### Current Situation

- In February 2001, the Fairfax County Park Authority purchased the old Ellmore Farm, a five acre parcel of land contiguous to Frying Pan Park, to preserve the land's historic structures, landscape and view sheds and to fulfill unmet site needs. With input from a citizen task force and staff, a Master Plan Revision for Frying Pan Park incorporating the newly acquired acreage was developed and approved by the Park Authority Board on September 25, 2002. Since acquisition, the Ellmore Farm Center has been renovated. The new Ellmore Farm Center opened during the summer of 2005. A pilot program was implemented for public rental fees of the facility with the intention of solidifying rates through the 2006 Fee Schedule process.
- The facility will accommodate office space, house collections storage, and eventually provide a dedicated area for farm museum exhibits. The facility also offers a large and a small multi-use space that will be scheduled by staff. Support from Fund 001 has not been made available for operation of these facilities, therefore staff has proposed a Fund 170 based program plan offering fee-based programs and activities on a break-even basis. Expanded programs will include instructor led classes such as swing and ballroom dancing, knitting, drama, and nature classes that will be offered through Parktakes.
- In comparing rental spaces and fees, the rooms at Ellmore were found to more closely match rooms available at RECenters, therefore fees were drawn from the RECenter model.

### Proposed Fees

The proposed pilot rental rates were developed through price and space comparisons to Park Authority and non-Park Authority facilities.

#### Ellmore Farm Center Auditorium:

4 hour Rental	\$280
Extra Hour	\$ 70
Security Deposit	\$100
Alcoholic Beverage Permit	\$100

#### Meeting Room

2 hour Rental	\$ 80
Extra Hour	\$ 40
Security Deposit	\$ 50
Alcoholic Beverage Permit	\$100

## Kayak Rentals- Riverbend Park

### Current Situation

- Riverbend Park has been offering kayak classes for the general public for approximately four years. The classes have become so popular that the demand for them has far exceeded what our staff can accommodate. For the last several years many visitors have been asking staff if they could rent the kayaks. Kayaking is a sport that is growing in popularity, and Riverbend Park is the only FCPA site that offers this activity to the public.
- Currently there are no FCPA kayak rental facilities. Pohick Bay Regional Park provides kayak rentals. It's location on the Potomac estuary does not meet the public's demand for white water or swift water kayaking, however. Spring River Outfitters, another local provider, lacks a shoreline location making it difficult for them to meet demand as well.
- Staff proposes operations to run May through October. Initially, potential renters will be required to call ahead in order to ensure availability. The program will include half day and full day rentals. Hourly rental rates on the Potomac are not practical so will not be offered.
- Renting kayaks will require minimal staff time. Most weekend days are expected to have anywhere from 4-8 rentals. Many kayakers sign up for programs as couples, and it is anticipated this pattern to be true of rentals as well.
- Proposed rates are slightly less expensive than the two comparable non-FCPA sites, but are similar to current canoe rental fees at Lake Accotink (\$5 per hour.) This allows the FCPA to be slightly more competitive with the non-FCPA sites, while not competing with its own organizational fees.

### Proposed Kayak Rental Fees

	<u>Half Day Rental*<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Full Day Rental*<sup>2</sup></u>
Kayak Rental	\$15	\$25

\*Rental fees include paddle, helmet and flotation device.

<sup>1</sup> Half Day Rental is up to 3 hours

<sup>2</sup> Full Day Rental is for 3-6 hours

## Rowboat Rentals - Riverbend Park

### Current Situation

- Rowboat Rental fees currently exist at both Burke Lake and Lake Accotink Parks. Currently there is no boat rental facility in Fairfax County on the Potomac River above Great Falls, however public demand for this service is high. Riverbend staff would like to offer this service utilizing the Enterprise Fund Initiative. It is requested that the fees proposed here be adopted so that the schedule is in place once the boats and other necessary equipment are acquired.
- Staff proposes that the fees be the same as the proposed kayak rental fees.
- The proposed fees are higher than at Burke Lake and Lake Accotink Parks due to additional wear and tear on boats used in a river from rocks and rougher terrain. These additional costs were factored in to the proposed rates.

### Proposed fee – Rowboat Rental – Riverbend Park

	<u>Half Day Rental*<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Full Day Rental*<sup>2</sup></u>
Rowboat Rental	\$15	\$25

\*Rental fees include oars, and life preservers

<sup>1</sup> Half Day Rental is up to 3 hours

<sup>2</sup> Full Day Rental is for 3+ hours

## **Rental of Nature Center - Riverbend Park**

### **Current Situation**

- A rental fee for the Nature Center at Riverbend was established in the FY 2004 Fee Schedule process. Unfortunately since the fee was established there has been no success in renting the Nature Center to private groups. It is felt that the current fees and advertised availability is too restrictive. Currently the fee schedule identifies a fee for 4 hour minimum rentals with the facility as being available only on Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. It is recommended that the minimum time for a rental be reduced as well as to identify changes in the facility availability.

### **Proposed fee – Nature Center – Riverbend**

	<u>Hourly Rental Fee</u>	<u>Security Deposit</u>
Private Group Rental	\$75	\$100

The facility will be available everyday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. No alcoholic beverages, no kitchen facility available.



## **Public Comments on Proposed Fee Adjustments for FY 2006**

### **1. Comments Provided at Public Comment Meeting (February 15, 2006)**

Six speakers presented comments at the fee comment meeting held February 15, 2006. A listing of the speakers and a summary of their comments is as follows:

- Ann Pimley, Centreville, VA. Ms. Pimley spoke on behalf of the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board in her office as Vice Chair. She advocated developing a system whereby fee discounts are based on income not age or disability. Her comments appear in full on page 2.
- Steve Jennings, Professional Auction Services, Leesburg, VA. Representing a company that conducts horse auctions at Frying Pan, Mr. Jennings expressed an objection to application of the business activity license fee to his auctions. He argued that charging a fee based on percentage of gross revenue was not consistent with practices at other facilities where a facility rental fee is more customary and would force him to re-locate his sale to another facility.
- Steve Samanski, Vienna, VA. Mr. Samanski spoke as a representative of the VA. Region, U.S. Pony Club which conducts the Difficult Run Horse Trial (DRHT) at Frying Pan. He stated that applying the business activity license fee to the DRHT would be prohibitively expensive for his group and did not account for the partnership in which the Pony Club maintains all outside equestrian facilities at Frying Pan. He recommended rental fees for all facilities instead, and also suggested charging a fee for the use of the cross country course as an alternative revenue strategy.
- Albert Riveras, Providence RECenter user. Mr. Riveras opposed the RECenter fee increases in general and felt general fund revenues should be used to fund RECenter operation. He also expressed some concerns about maintenance at Providence, specifically the spa.
- Dan Hurley, Fairfax Station, VA. Mr. Hurley spoke as a Boy Scouts volunteer against applying the business activity license fee to non-profit groups like the Boy Scouts. The full text of his comments appears beginning on page 3.
- Jerry O'Dell. Mr. O'Dell supported Ms. Pimley's proposal to migrate to a system of income-based fee discounts. He also expressed opposition to having an admission structure based on height at the Water Mine RECenter and to the proposed RECenter fee adjustments in general. He also suggested extending the hours of operation at all RECenters.



## County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

**Testimony of Ann Pimley, Vice Chair  
Fairfax Area Disability Services Board  
to the Park Authority  
February 15, 2006**

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Fairfax County Park Authority's proposed fee changes for 2006. The Fairfax Area Disability Services Board supports a complete overhaul of the discounted fee schedule for seniors. We believe that discounts should be based on income and not on age or disability.

The FA-DSB supports and endorses a comprehensive look at readjusting fees to make them more equitable for all users. It is our opinion that any discounts should be based on limited financial resources, not solely age or disability. Many seniors and people with disabilities are living on fixed incomes, but age and disability are not synonymous with low incomes. Many people with disabilities have lower incomes than people without disabilities, including seniors. Having the discount based on financial resources would allow eligible seniors to continue to use Park Authority facilities and will extend the discount to younger adults with disabilities who can benefit from being physically active.

While the FA-DSB does not have a specific recommendation or position on the type of formula to be used to determine a needs-based system, perhaps the FCPA could study the feasibility of using current eligibility requirements for programs in the county that provide discounts to eligible residents based on income levels or other qualifying factors.

Ann Pimley  
5212 High Grove Hills Lane  
Centreville, VA 20120

---

**Fairfax Area Disability Services Board**  
12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 708  
Fairfax, VA 22035-1104

703-324-5421, TTY 703-449-1186, FAX 703-449-8689  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsb)



Fairfax County Park Authority  
Hearing re Proposed Fee Arrangements  
February 15, 2006

Statement of Daniel C. Hurley, Jr.,  
Volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America

Good evening. I am Dan Hurley, a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America and nearly 30-year resident of Fairfax County. I work with youth in the Annandale, Burke, Fairfax, and Fairfax Station areas, although other Scout volunteers work with youth throughout Fairfax County. I offer these remarks unofficially and do not represent them as the official position of the Boy Scouts of America.

- We understand and support the proposed adjustment in the Fee Schedule as it applies to a for-profit organization or to a non-profit organization if the primary purpose of the activity is to raise funds.
- As the largest and oldest of the many service organizations working with our youth, the Boy Scouts supply thousands of hours of direct service to the youth in our community. Many of these activities take place in Park Authority facilities.
- Moreover, in contrast to many other youth service organizations, the Boy Scouts contribute many hours of direct service to Park Authority facilities in the form of clean-up campaigns and service projects yielding improvements available to the general public.
- In our opinion, the proposed adjustment in the fee structure fails to differentiate between organizations which use the parks purely for recreational purposes and

those organizations which directly serve the public and the goals of the Park Authority. As noted at the beginning, we do not object to applying the proposed fee adjustment to the fund-raising activities of non-profit organizations, including the Boy Scouts.

- We urge the Park Authority to make that differentiation and not penalize those organizations, such as the Boy Scouts, which supply a direct benefit to the Park Authority and to the public at large.
- We believe that it is easy to differentiate between organizations and their activities.
- Here's one example. Like most citizens in northern Virginia, we are concerned about gang activity. Scouting is participating in a joint effort with the Fairfax County Public Schools and the Fairfax County Police Department to supply positive alternatives to gangs. With the School Board's assistance, we have met with the Police Department representatives leading this effort and have submitted plans to help staff an activity for boy scout-aged youth this summer. We have also been asked to consider including younger youth within a separate week-long activity scheduled to take place this summer in one of the county's parks.
- Surely one can discern the differences between activities that have a core service rationale, such as those just described, and other activities which are purely recreational in nature. We ask, not rhetorically, whether it is fair to use the same fee assessment schedule for the foregoing activity as for a company picnic, for example.

- Accordingly, we strongly urge the Park Authority to differentiate between organizations that use the parks purely for recreational purposes and those activities of non-profit organizations which involve use of the parks for direct service to the community.
- Thank you. I would be happy to take any questions.

Daniel C. Hurley, Jr.  
10525 Daysailer Dr.  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039  
h. 703/978-3011

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2006 8:43 PM

**To:** Parkmail

**Subject:** (no subject)

I am emailing about the fees for the rec centers. In part, I agree with package discounts. I have a yearly pass because it's cheaper than day passes or monthly rates. But it is my choice as to which of the above I purchase. My problem is that I don't have the CHOICE to buy a 2 person pass. I am single and penalized because of that. I have no problem with family passes as the children should pay less but I don't feel a single person should have to pay more than half of a 2 person pass. I use half the facilities of two people and should only pay half of the price of the 2 person pass. I hope you will consider changing this policy which discriminates against single people. Thanks.

Deidre Anderson

1221 Forestwood Dr.

McLean, VA

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2006 10:07 AM

**To:** Parkmail

**Subject:** Feedback to: All Board Members

**Comment:** Members of the FCPA

Recently I became aware that you are reviewing and soliciting comments on the proposed fee changes for 2006. At this time I am asking that the board consider to eliminate the fees or reduce them for use of the FCPA golf courses for employees of the FCPS School Board. I am particularly interested in employees of the transportation department working on the country school buses. As you may be aware, we are continually suffering a critical shortage of bus drivers and assistants to operate our school bus fleet of over 1400 school buses. This could very easily be a recruiting incentive for potential new employees. In the past we have included various monetary incentives, but to the best of my knowledge we have never approached

recruiting in a quality of life for the dedicated staff that transports our most valuable resource here within Fairfax County. I have not calculated the financial impact of this request to FCPA, however I am confident that it would have a tremendous morale enhancement to our employees. In addition numerous transportation employees are senior citizens who are currently working to augment their fixed incomes to be able to maintain the quality of life that is truly an outstanding feature of residing in Fairfax County. Your kind and generous consideration of this request will undoubtedly be gratefully received by numerous employees of the FCPS Transportation Department. Again, Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion and submit this request.

Yourname: Patrick H. Lazere  
Address: 3006 Doeg Indian Ct.  
City: Alexandria  
State: VA

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2006 11:17 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Feedback to: All Board Members

Comment: Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns about no golf fees for public school employees. many senior citizens seek employment with Fairfax County and it would be a good incentive to give them a discount on public golf courses.

As you may be aware, the transportation department each year is always short on drivers and is always trying to get new drivers to operate our fleet of over 1400 school buses. Many of our current employees are senior citizens and would benefit from a discount not only from golf courses but other county programs,

In addition numerous transportation employees are senior citizens who are currently working to augment their fixed income to be able to maintain the quality of life that is an outstanding feature of living in Fairfax County.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. Thank again.

Yourname: Charles T Mize  
Address: 12104 Green Ledge Ct  
City: Fairfax  
State: VA

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 08, 2006 12:30 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** fees

I would like to share my thoughts on this matter. I believe that any discounts should be on the basis of need rather than age or disability. Thank you, Mary N Cocker

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2006 10:00 PM  
To: Duray, Nick  
Subject: Query about Park Authority budget documents . . .

Mr. Duray, I was given your name by a lady at Providence Rec Center as being possibly able to provide some background on the proposed increase in cost for passes. I recognize that this is a lot of data, but if you have some sort of work-up

on a budget document that would generally lay out where costs are anticipated to rise, I would appreciate it if you would point this out to me. I take it that such projected increased costs are [presumably] the stated reason for the increased prices for passes. My wife was taking the tack that there would not seem to be any justification for an increase in the rates for the various kinds of admissions and passes. I am of the opinion that there probably is some basis for an increase in prices, but have no knowledge of what your cost projections are that go into the agency budget. If this material is already available somewhere on the internet, if you could simply send along a URL for it, I would much appreciate it. Thanks for your help. Jorn Dakin Please reply to ...

Mr. Dakin-

It's not clear from your e-mail to what extent you have reviewed material in the fee proposal itself. It is available for your review online at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feehearing.htm>. (You get to the fee proposal by clicking the online link in green on this page.) In particular, refer to systemwide considerations beginning on page 3 and the background to the RECenter fees on page 9.

-----Original Message-----

> Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2006 8:07 AM  
> To: Parkmail  
> Subject: Question about Proposed 2006 Fee Adjustment  
>  
>  
> Dear Sir or Madam:  
>  
> I have read the "Proposed Fee Adjustment 2006" document and the "Year  
> 2006 Fee Adjustment Q&A" document posted on the www. Neither document  
> states the total amount of additional money projected to be raised  
> yearly by the proposed fee adjustments. Such a projection must have  
> been made. Therefore my question is, "What is the total amount of  
> additional revenue projected to be generated per year from the  
> increase in fees?" Please email the answer to ...  
>  
> Thank you.  
>  
> Charles W. Albo

On Feb 9, 2006, at 13:47, Duray, Nick wrote:

>Mr. Albo:  
>  
> Yes, you are correct, there are revenue projections. They typically



> are included in the Park Authority Board item to authorize public  
> advertisement of the fee proposal with the proposal itself as an  
> attachment. Projected revenue from the entire package as proposed for  
> the remainder of fiscal 2006 (April - June 2006) was \$256,800, and for  
> fiscal 2007 was \$984,023.  
>  
> Nick Duray  
> Park Services Division

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 8:16 AM

**To:** Parkmail

**Subject:** Higher Fees

I saw in the Fairfax Extra of the Washington Post this morning that you are considering raising fees again. You recently spent money to have TVs installed in the Centers, and now you are in need of funds. It makes no sense that you had money to spend on something that was not really needed and now you have "escalating costs". I use the Springhill Center and there are six TVs in the exercise room. TVs have absolutely nothing to do with exercise and it is excessive spending. DO NOT RAISE FEES THIS YEAR.

Stewart Buchanan

Original Message-----

**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 10:57 AM

**To:** Parkmail

**Subject:** Proposed 2006 Fee Increases

Dear Sir or Madam:

I strongly oppose the proposed fee increases at RECenters. The primary justifications for the proposed increases are (1) a desire to keep up with the region's rising CPI and (2) an assessment that customers will pay more. This reasoning runs counter to the public service mission that the Park Authority should be pursuing.

Homeowners in Fairfax County are already being squeezed by double-digit rises in home assessments which contribute in no small measure to the rising cost of living in this area. Those of us without children in public school sometimes wonder what we're getting for our money. Furthermore, the proposal's assertion that building another RECenter or two somehow improves RECenter value to the customer is fallacious. Most of the people I know who use the Oak Marr RECenter, as I do, use only that facility because it is the closest one to their

homes. Building another RECenter elsewhere in the county does nothing to improve the RECenter's value for us.

The Park Authority should not try to match the profit margin of Gold's Gym, but rather concentrate on providing local taxpayers an oasis of healthy recreation without making them pay through the nose for it.

Jeffrey Buczacki  
9508 Scarab Street  
Vienna, VA

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Monday, February 13, 2006 9:42 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: mpetitto@hotmail.com  
Subject: Proposed Fee Changes

To whom it may concern:

I would like to make a suggestion regarding the issuance of passes to Fairfax County RECenters. Currently, the 2-person pass is only available to people occupying the same home address. I would like to suggest that this pass be made available to interested parties of 2, regardless of home address. Proof of Fairfax County Residency (for both persons) would still be required to receive the Discount Rate. I think that opening up this option as described above will encourage workout buddies, and increase overall pass purchases. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Moncel Petitto

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2006 12:37 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Fee increases - comment

Dear FCPA,

I am writing to propose that the REC Centers no longer be self-supporting. REC Centers should be a benefit to residents, on par with libraries. Not that REC centers should be free, as libraries are, but they should be subsidized, so that all residents, including those with modest income, can benefit from them.

I have a separate comment on fee structure. The senior citizen discount should be presented as optional, to encourage senior citizens who are well off, to pay the full fee, or at least some amount in addition to the current senior citizen fee.

Sincerely,

Marie Reinsdorf  
6709 Kerns Road, Falls Church, VA

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2006 11:59 PM

**To:** Parkmail

**Subject:** Comments-Proposed Fee Increase

Thank you for providing this opportunity to offer our comments in connection with the proposed fee increase. For the past six months, we have had the pleasure of renting the newly-renovated South Run Field House.

In just a short time, we have attracted over eighty adult teams, serving the recreational needs of over one thousand men and women. Due in no small part to the efforts of Fairfax County and its extremely dedicated employees, we have been able to provide a valuable service to the community in utilizing this exciting new space.

In return, our contribution to Park Authority revenues has steadily increased throughout this period. Our group has already paid over twenty five thousand dollars in rental fees since October. Projecting additional growth over the next six months, we estimate our annual rental fees to exceed sixty thousand dollars, based on the current fee structure.

While we thoroughly appreciate the County's need to periodically raise its rental rates, we strongly believe that the proposed increase will threaten the future growth of our still fledgling program. In fact, more than half of our teams have advised us that they will not be able to continue participating should we raise our registration fees to offset the increased expense. Since the proposed fees will immediately double our rental rates after only six months of operations, we will need to raise team registration fees by a whopping thirty-three percent.

Instead, we will lose teams to private facilities such as the Dulles Sportsplex and Fairfax Sportsplex which offer year-round adult leagues at rates consistent with what we are presently charging for our program. While launching our leagues at South Run, we conducted an in-depth analysis of team and individual fees for all area adult programs by season in order to establish our pricing in accordance with local market conditions.

Although South Run is a somewhat larger facility, these other spaces offer similar playing surfaces and much greater comfort levels. Given the lack of insulation and HVAC at South Run, it has not been uncommon to experience indoor temperatures well under twenty degrees during the past months. Nevertheless, our pricing structure has enabled us to attract a steadily growing membership. Once we lose our competitive edge, we will also lose several existing teams and our ability to attract new participants.

In light of the above, we respectfully request that any fee increase show extreme moderation in connection with the new Field House, possibly even excluding this facility altogether. With programs operating for such a short period of time at the current rental rates, any increase stands to jeopardize the future development of offerings such as our own. Perhaps the issue can be revisited during the next fiscal year as these programs have the membership to better support such a steep rise in expenses.

In the meantime, the addition of radiant wall-mounted heaters or even propane space heaters located on the sidelines would certainly assist in assuaging player concerns, adding value to counteract perceived market imbalances while reversing potentially significant attrition.

It is our sincere hope that the above comments have been useful in helping the Park Authority to better understand the dire effects that these actions would have on our group and others at South Run.

Given the newness of this unique facility, the timing of these proposed fee increases is unfortunate, and we ask that these facts be taken into consideration for the continued viability of programs such as our own.

Bill Goldman  
Director  
NAA

**ACTION - 11**

Contract Award – Professional Services for Phase I Development of Patriot Park  
(Springfield District)

ISSUE:

Approval of a contract award to Patton Harris Rust & Associates (PHR&A) of Chantilly, Virginia in the amount of \$254,885 for the preparation of design and construction documents, permitting services and construction administration services required to develop Phase I of Patriot Park.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the contract award to PHR&A of Chantilly, Virginia, in the amount of \$254,885 for the preparation of design and construction documents, permitting services and construction administration services required to develop Phase I of Patriot Park. In addition, the Director recommends reserving \$25,489 or ten (10) percent of the contract award for contract contingency, and \$15,294 or six (6) percent of the contract award for administrative costs.

Contract Award	\$254,885
Contract Contingency (10%)	\$ 25,489
Administrative Cost (6%)	<u>\$ 15,294</u>
Total	\$295,668

TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2006, in order to maintain the project schedule.

BACKGROUND:

The 2004 Park Bond Program approved by the Park Authority Board included funding for the first phase of athletic field development at Patriot Park. At their February 8, 2006, meeting, the Park Authority Board approved a project scope for developing the area of Patriot Park accessed from the Mott Community Center that will include the following facilities / improvements:

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

- Access Road through the Mott Community Center
- Parking Facilities (100 spaces) and Associated Roadways
- 1 - Over-Sized Lighted and Irrigated Artificial Turf Field
- Stormwater Management Facilities and Related Structures
- Sidewalks and Trails
- Site Lighting
- Site Landscaping

On October 2, 2005, the Park Authority publicly advertised for professional services for the development of Patriot Park. After an initial screening of all interested professional firms, staff interviewed the top three (3) qualified firms on November 22, 2005. The firms were allowed to present their qualifications. Each company was then rated based on their responses to six (6) standard questions. On November 23, 2005, the results of the interview process were distributed to the team members, and it was determined that PHR&A was the most qualified firm for the Patriot Park project.

The recommended contract award includes professional services to prepare design and construction documents, cost estimates and provide permitting and construction administration services necessary to develop the first phase of Patriot Park. We anticipate a follow-on phase II contract with Patton Harris Rust and Associates to design the athletic fields and entrance road on the eastern portion of the park. The phase II contract will come to the Park Authority for approval in the near future.

The Department of Tax Administration has verified that PHR&A has the appropriate Fairfax County Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding in the amount of \$295,668 is necessary to award this contract and to fund the associated contingency and administrative costs. Based on encumbrances and expenditures to date, funding is currently available in the amount of \$5,055 in Project 004791, Popes Head Estates, in Fund 371, Park Capital Improvement Fund; \$227,989 in Project 474198, Athletic Fields, and \$62,624 in Project 474104, Athletic Fields, in Fund 370, Park Authority Bond Construction to award this contract.

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

- Attachment 1: Request for Proposal Letter to Patton Harris Rust & Associates dated  
January 9, 2006 (without enclosures)  
Attachment 2 - Professional Services Summary, Phase 1 Development of Patriot Park

STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director  
Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer  
Lynn S. Tadlock, Director, Planning and Development Division  
Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division  
Charles Bittenbring, Director, Park Services Division  
Cindy Messinger, Director, Resource Management Division  
John Lehman, Manager, Project Management Branch  
Eric Brunner, Project Manager, Project Management Branch



## FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927  
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118



January 9, 2006

Mr. David H. Steigler, RLA  
Director of Planning and Landscape Architecture  
14532 Lee Road  
Chantilly, VA 20151

REF: Request for Proposal  
Patriot Park

Dear Mr. Steigler:

I am pleased to inform you that Patton Harris Rust & Associates (PHR&A) has been selected for consideration as the consultant for site design and site plan preparation for Patriot Park located at the northeast corner of the intersection between Fairfax County Parkway and Braddock Road.

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) is hereby requesting a fee and work plan proposal to provide design and engineering assistance for the following tasks: site design, construction plan and technical specification preparation, plan processing, permitting, construction cost estimates, construction contract bidding assistance, and construction administration assistance for the elements of the proposed park improvements. The proposal should include a fee breakdown by Service Phases (Work Plan), a summary of deliverables, and a time schedule for the services of each phase and each set of deliverables.

The proposal shall be submitted to FCPA no later than 4:30 pm, on January 30, 2006.

The following background information and Scope of Work descriptions shall be the basis of the proposal and serve as guidelines to the provision of design, engineering, and related services for the project. PHR&A may propose additional services that they deem essential to successful completion of the Scope of Work.

### ***Proposal Preparation and Fee Derivation***

The fee proposal and work plan should include all phases and services identified in the Scope of Work to enable construction plan and technical specification preparation, plan processing, permitting, construction cost estimates, construction contract bidding assistance, and construction contract administration assistance. An hourly not to exceed sum will be the base method of compensation for this contract. In the proposal, provide a detailed breakdown of the total costs

703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-324-3988 • ONLINE: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks) • E-MAIL: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354



proposed to perform the work for each phase listed in the Scope of Work. The total cost should be detailed by task with hours per staff and non-salary direct costs.

Non-salary direct costs (telephone, fax, postage, typing, photocopies, prints, reprographics, mylars, courier/deliveries, supplies, film and photo, and similar costs) should be detailed and made a part of the fee proposal package. Mileage must be included; maximum allowable per mile rate is 44.5 cents.

## ***Project Background***

The 2004 Park bonds and proffer funds are providing limited funding for the design and construction of Patriot Park. The master plan for the park has been approved by the Park Authority Board. The scoping phase of the project has recently been completed with assistance from PHR&A. A phasing strategy for construction has been established. The construction plan and specification preparation will be based on the schematic work previously completed by PHR&A.

## ***Scope of Work***

Provide construction plan, specification and cost estimate preparation, plan processing, permitting, construction bidding assistance, and construction administration assistance for the project to include, but not limited to, the following:

### **Phase I:**

#### **Part A.**

- 1) Produce construction documents and specifications for the proposed improvements located west of Piney Branch near the existing Mott Community Center property. This includes, but is not limited to, one over-sized, lighted, artificial turf, rectangular field, a graded area for a future skate park, an access way from the Mott Community Center, associated parking, trails from the Mott Community Center to the proposed parking and field, and the associated storm water management facility.
  - a. Construction documents include plans prepared for submission to, and approval by, the County's Office of Site Development Services (OSDS) expedited review process (DPE signature is required), technical specifications, and construction cost estimates.
  - b. Design development documents will be submitted for review to FCPA when 35% completion has been obtained. FCPA staff will review the documents and issue comments.
  - c. Construction documents will be submitted for review to FCPA when 50% completion has been obtained. FCPA staff will review the documents and issue comments.

- d. Construction documents will be submitted for review to FCPA when 95% completion has been obtained. FCPA staff will review the documents and issue comments.
  - e. FCPA staff will review the 100% completed plans before they are submitted to OSDS for review.
  - f. All FCPA staff comments will be addressed prior to submission to OSDS.
  - g. Prior to subsequent re-submissions, all OSDS comments shall be addressed to FCPA's satisfaction.
  - h. Approximately twelve (12) progress meetings will be required with FCPA staff or other agencies throughout the engineering and design process.
- 2) Provide construction contract bidding assistance, as requested.
- a. During construction contract bidding, assist FCPA in responding to bidder's questions, prepare addenda, revise plans as needed and attend pre-bid meeting. (The FCPA will have sole responsibility for opening bids and awarding the construction contract.)
- 3) Upon request, provide assistance during construction to answer questions, attend progress meetings, review shop drawings, interpret plan and specifications, and resolve issues related to site conditions or construction related issues. Assume ten (10) meetings for this task. FCPA staff will provide routine contract management and quality control during construction.

## **Part B.**

- 1) Produce a Resource Protection Area (RPA) Study that establishes the boundary of the RPA for the tributary that runs along the eastern boundary of the proposed skate park. This includes, but is not limited to, any field work that is required to accurately locate the boundary of the RPA, plan processing, and anything else required to gain County approval of the proposed boundary location.

## **Phase II:**

It is anticipated that that there will be a follow-on contract for Phase II when funding becomes available. Phase II will include the entire design of the property to the east of Piney Branch as shown on the scoping schematic prepared by PHR&A. This may include improvements to Braddock and First Road, an entrance road into the park, three (3) lighted and irrigated 90' baseball diamonds, three (3) lighted and irrigated full-size natural turf rectangular fields, a restroom facility, the associated roadways and parking, the associated storm water management facilities, and any on-site wetland mitigation. A separate RFP will be sent out at the time that Phase II funding becomes available.

## ***Professional Services For The Project***

The following services anticipated for this project, may include but are not limited to:

1. Provide reconnaissance and field investigation to be familiar with all aspects of the work area. Inspect and review site data, collect and/or prepare base map data and base maps, if necessary. Review approved master plan and 2232 approval.
2. Prepare plans using the English system.
3. Obtain all local, state, and federal required permits for construction.
4. Provide construction document preparation services and administration of plan and document preparation.
5. Prepare construction cost estimates.
6. Comply with Owner's proposed schedule.
7. Prepare technical specifications using FCPA technical specifications, as available, special conditions, and construction plans for bidding and construction.
8. Provide other information and services as required to meet the intent of this part of the project.
9. Key Personnel – The personnel and sub-consultants named in the proposal shall remain responsible throughout the period of this contract. No diversion or replacement may be made without submission of a resume of the proposed replacement with final approval by the Park Authority.
10. Changes:
  - A. Fairfax County Park Authority may, at any time, by written order, require changes in the services to be performed by the consultant. If such changes cause an increase or decrease in the consultant's cost of, or time required for, performance of any services under this contract, an equitable adjustment shall be made and the contract shall be modified in writing accordingly. The Fairfax County Park Authority must approve all work that is beyond the approved Proposal.
  - B. No services for which an additional cost or fee will be charged by the consultant shall be furnished without the prior written authorization of the Fairfax County Park Authority.

## ***FCPA PROVIDED INFORMATION***

Existing documents of site and project conditions will be available for use in proposal preparation and design. Documents and conditions must be verified by consultant. All available data in the possession of the FCPA that may be relevant to this project will be made available to the consultant; any cost for researching and obtaining other data or processing, analyzing, or evaluating data must be included in the contract fee.

## ***DELIVERABLE ITEMS***

1. Provide eight (8) bound copies of the 35% design development plans for the proposed site.
2. Provide three (3) bound copies of the 50% construction plans for the proposed site.
3. Provide eight (8) bound copies of the 95% construction plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the proposed site.
4. Provide two (2) bound copies of the 100% construction plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the proposed site prior to submitting the plan to OSDS.
5. Provide sufficient copies of plans to OSDS for their review process plus one (1) copy of each submission for FCPA staff use.
6. Provide one (1) reproducible mylar original and one (1) paper copy of the county approved plan set.
7. Provide all required permits and approvals from all agencies required for construction.
8. Provide one (1) CD that contains all electronic files associated with the county approved plan, specifications, and cost estimates.
  - a) All digital plans shall be in AutoCAD 2004 format.
  - b) All specifications shall be in Microsoft Word.
  - c) All cost estimates shall be in Microsoft Excel.
6. Provide the minutes for each meeting attended within 3 business days of the meeting.

For your use, we are also attaching several documents titled as follows:

- (a) Fairfax County Park Authority Construction Plan Requirements.
- (b) Fairfax County Park Authority Survey Plan Requirements.
- (c) Sheet Information/AutoCAD Requirements.
- (d) The Owner Proposed Project Schedule.

David Steigler  
January 9, 2006  
Page 6 of 6

We look forward to working with you and your staff on this project.

Sincerely,

Eric Brunner, Project Manager  
Project Management Branch  
Planning and Development Division

cc: (only enclosure d)

John Lehman, Manager, PMB, Planning and Development Division

Chris Hoppe, Section Supervisor, PMB, Planning and Development Division

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SUMMARY**

### **Phase I Development of Patriot Park**

#### **Design Development**

- Civil Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Cost Estimating
- Plat Preparation

#### **Environmental Permits**

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
- VPDES Permit Application

#### **Construction Documents**

- Civil Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Cost Estimating

#### **Bidding Assistance**

- Civil Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering

#### **Construction Administration**

- Civil Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Geotechnical Inspections & Material Testing

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

## **INFORMATION - 1**

### 2006-2010 Strategic Plan

At the January 11, 2006 Board meeting, staff provided a brief overview of the strategic planning process we will use as we build the Park Authority's 2006-2010 Strategic Plan.

During the Strategic Plan Workshop on January 25, 2006, staff presented the Park Authority's Strategy Map, which has been updated to reflect rewording of "Diversify Funding Sources" to "Expand Funding Sources" (Attachment 1). Staff indicated at that time that work was scheduled to begin on the Scorecard, including development of measures and brainstorming of initiatives that would help to accomplish the strategic objectives contained on the Strategy Map.

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee conducted 12 outreach sessions with staff during the month of February. During these sessions, the Strategy Map was explained, and thoughts from staff on specific initiatives that will serve to accomplish the objectives outlined in the 2006-2010 Plan were solicited.

The Steering Committee is now in the process of reviewing all of the feedback obtained from those sessions, and preparing for subsequent exercises with the Director's Leadership Team and staff that has been identified from across the organization to review and prioritize the initiatives. There are three sessions planned for the Group Decision Support Center on April 4, 5, and 6, during which time approximately 60 staff members will have the opportunity to comment on the feedback that was received during the outreach sessions, and weigh in on their relative importance and relationship to the strategic objectives.

Following the identification of initiatives that will become a part of the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan, the Steering Committee will lead the Leadership Team through exercises that will validate the draft measures that currently exist, and refine measures, as necessary, to ensure alignment with the strategic initiatives. Staff will share the draft Scorecard with the Board once the measures have been finalized.

### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2006-2010 Park Authority Strategy Map

Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

STAFF:

Michael A. Kane, Director

Timothy K. White, Chief Operating Officer

Elisa Lueck, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Policy Development



## Customer

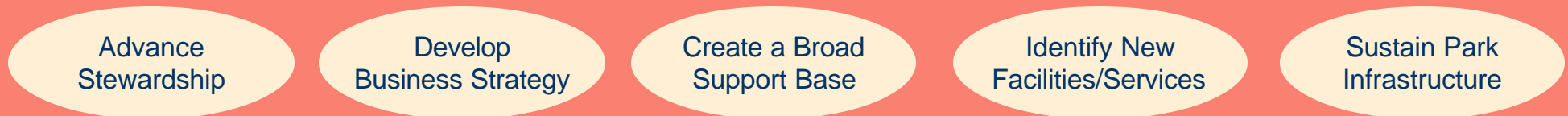
# Fairfax County Park Authority Strategy Map



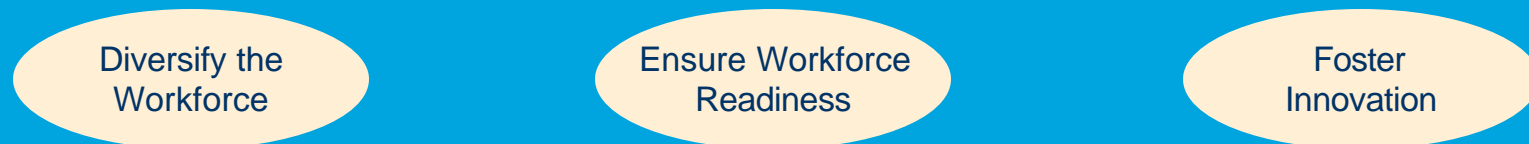
## Financial



## Process



## Learning & Growth



Board Agenda Item  
March 22, 2006

**INFORMATION - 2**

FY 2006 Update - Fund 370, Park Authority Bond Construction and Fund 371, Park Capital Improvement Fund

As presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 8, 2006.

**INFORMATION - 3**

2006 Farmer's Market Vendor Fee Increase

As presented to and reviewed by the Resource Management Committee on February 22, 2006.